

# Public Libraries

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No. 6

## Contents

<b>Notes on bookbinding for libraries</b>	287-289	<b>Interesting things in print</b>	319
J. C. Dana		<b>Library matters in San Francisco</b>	320-321
<b>Binding, historic and artistic</b>	289-293	<b>Library meetings</b>	322-330
Robert W. Adams		Ann Arbor	
<b>Better bookbinding for libraries</b>	294-299	Chicago	
Henry E. Bliss		District of Columbia	
<b>Bookbinding from librarian's standpoint</b>	300-301	Massachusetts	
W. K. Stetson		Minnesota	
<b>Preparing for the binder</b>	302-303	New York city	
Mary R. Caldwell		North Carolina	
<b>How the binding of books began</b>	303	Ontario	
<b>Editorial</b>	304-305	<b>A. L. A. committee on title-pages to periodicals</b>	330
<b>Library reading course</b>	306-307	<b>Library schools</b>	331-334
<b>A national library for the blind</b>	308-309	Drexel institute	
Asa Don Dickinson		Pratt institute	
<b>Report on library visiting</b>	310	Western Reserve university	
<b>A library paste</b>	310	Southern library school	
<b>Some wishes about books</b>	311	Michigan	
<b>Book surgery in libraries</b>	311-312	Chautauqua	
<b>The decay of leather bindings</b>	312-313	Washington	
<b>Library guides</b>	313	Wisconsin	
<b>Books on electricity</b>	313	Wyoming	
<b>How to catalog a small library</b>	314	<b>N. E. A.</b>	334
W. R. Eastman		Postponement of meeting	
<b>Nature study and small libraries</b>	315-316	<b>A. L. A.</b>	335-336
J. Christian Bay		Program	
<b>Shakespeare in public libraries</b>	317	<b>Program, trustees' section</b>	
<b>Book buying</b>	317-319	<b>A. L. A.</b>	336
A. L. A. bulletins Nos. 24-25		<b>Narragansett Pier</b>	337-338
		Some places of interest	
		<b>News from the field</b>	339-342
		<b>Publishers' department</b>	
		A. C. McClurg & Co., 343; Baker & Taylor Co., 344; Charles Scribner's Sons, 346; H. W. Wilson Co., 346; A. L. A. Publishing Board, 347; C. M. Higgins & Co., 350; Library Bureau, 350; Oliver Ditson Co., 351.	
		<b>Supply department</b>	
		Lawton & Co., 344; J. R. Anderson Co., 344; E. Steiger & Co., 344; Library Bureau, 286, 345, 348; John Wanamaker, 346; McDevitt-Wilson, 349; Schapirograph Co., 349; Cedric Chivers, 349; Hammond Typewriter Co., 352.	

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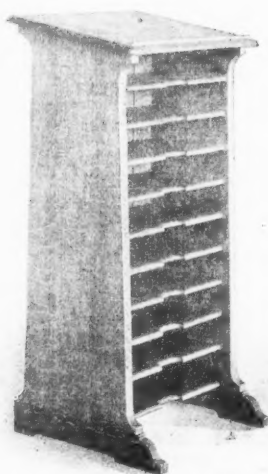
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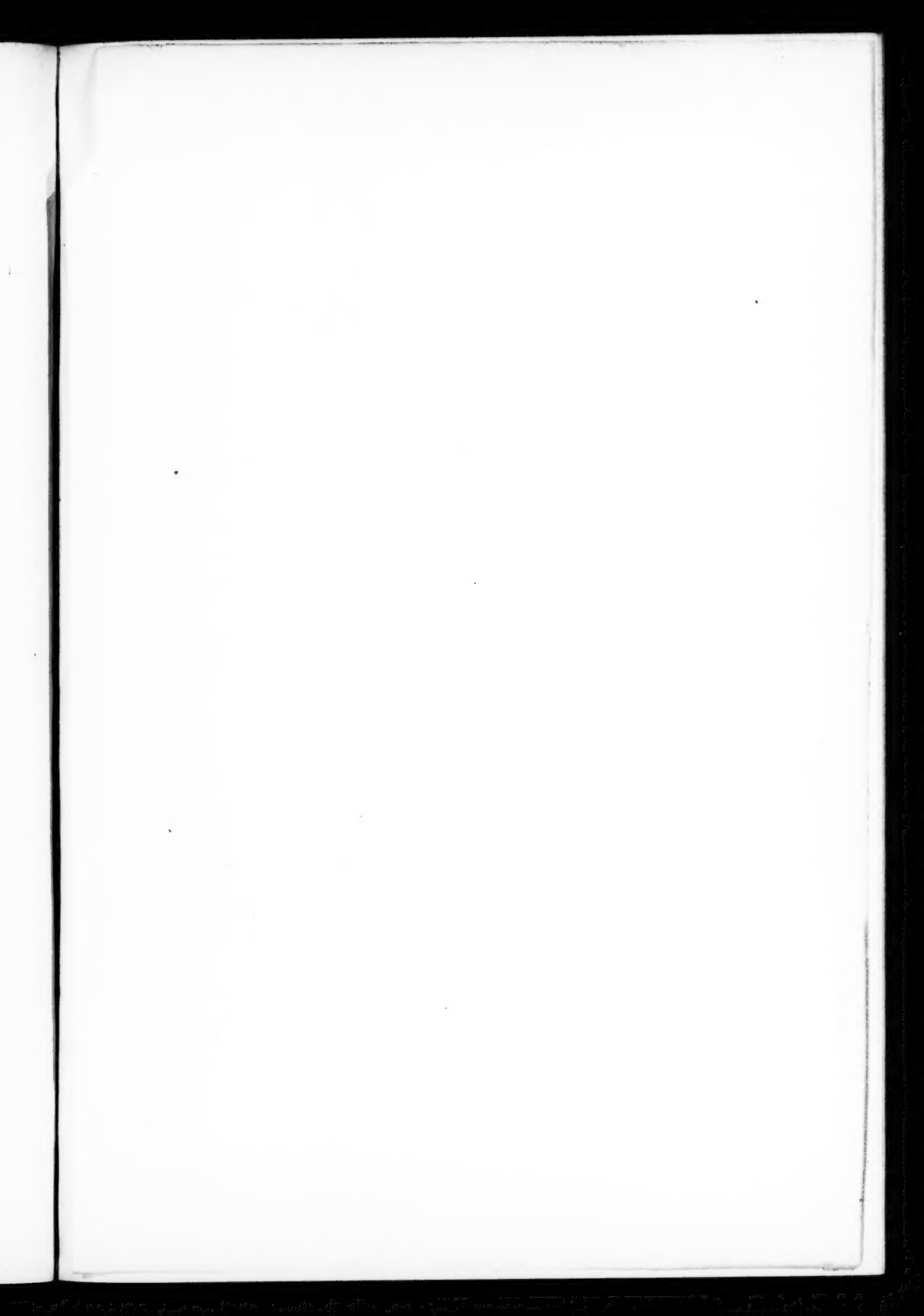
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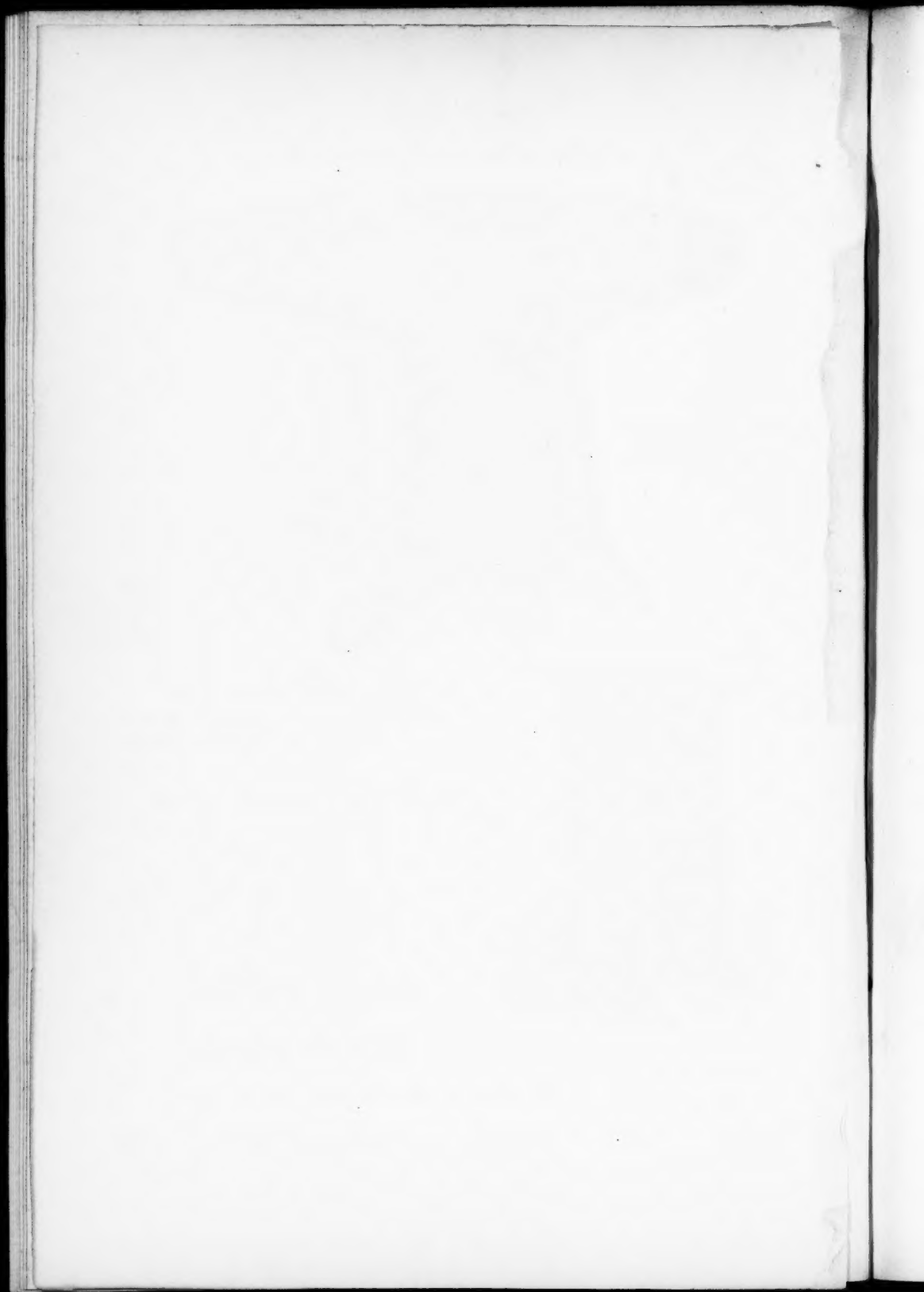
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## Notes on Bookbinding for Libraries\*

J. C. Dana, librarian, Newark, N. J.

In considering the subject of economical binding and rebinding for libraries, we find that we are entirely without standards. We have no figures for comparisons. Librarians have, save in a very few cases, made no study of the comparative value of bindings, either of original cloth or of the rebindings they have had put on their books. If a few librarians would note the number of times books can be issued without rebinding after they are received in the original publishers' cloth, and how many issues they will stand after they have been once, or twice, rebound, they would, in a few months, have data from which they could draw helpful conclusions in regard to the comparative value of bindings and rebindings.

The test of a binding, whether publishers' original, special from the sheets, or a rebinding, lies, for ordinary lending books, in the ratio of its cost to the number of times the book it covers is lent for home use before being discarded. This ratio has rarely been systematically noted.

To the inquiry, does the method of rebinding which my library now employs give the best possible return for the money spent? most librarians must reply that they do not know.

Reference and college libraries are often also much in the dark. The continued quite general use for permanent

bindings of a leather which tests have shown will not last over 25 or 30 years at the most is an evidence of this.

In England, as is well known, a good many years of careful observation and comparison of experiments have led a large number of librarians to the conclusion which some American librarians also accept, that first-class bindings, even at what seems like a high figure, put on before a book has received any wear at all, directly from the publishers' sheets is the part of sound economy.

I sent a letter of inquiry to a large number of libraries asking for detailed information about the wear of books in publishers' bindings and in the one or more bindings which were placed on them. Replies were received from 18 libraries, giving brief life histories of 74 books. Definite conclusions can not be drawn from these reports, as librarians differ much in their ways of treating books. Some rebind them as soon as they show serious signs of wear; others keep them in circulation long after they have begun to go to pieces. But the figures indicate that it would pay these libraries, as it probably would all others, to get most of the books which are to be subjected to much handling strongly bound direct from publishers' sheets.

The reports show that 74 books cost, including first price, rebinding and labor of handling for rebinding, an average of \$1.38 each; that they were lent an average of 79 times in the two states, new and rebound; and that they were out of use an average of five weeks while being

\*From the Introduction to Mr Dana's new book just published.

rebound. A book of a nature similar to those reported on, well-bound from publishers' sheets costs about \$1.50; can be lent from 100 to 150 times and loses no time in being rebound.

Of these books 52 were rebound a second time at an average cost, including labor in preparation, of 40 cents; were out of use an average of five weeks; and were lent an average of 43 times each in this second binding. The complete history of the books a second time rebound is as follows:

First cost	.95
Cost of first rebounding	.36
Cost of time in handling	.07
Cost of second rebounding	.33
Cost of time in handling	.07
Total cost	1.78
Times lent in publishers' cloth	32
Times lent in first rebounding	47
Times lent in second rebounding	43
	122
Time out of use first rebounding	5.5 weeks
Time out of use second rebounding	5. weeks
Total time out of use	10.5 weeks

These figures do not tell the whole story. The book bound strongly and flexibly from publishers' sheets is from the first more convenient to handle and pleasanter to read, and usually looks better throughout all its one long life than do, on the average, those books which twice or thrice in their histories get into a broken-backed, loose-leaved, generally disreputable condition. Furthermore, and this is most important, a book is most wanted in a library when it is new; if sent out to be rebound for five and a half weeks after it has been lent 32 times it is out of use just when it is most in demand; and the library loses in its effectiveness—that is, in the service it can render its public for the money expended—much more than the mere difference in the money cost of the two kinds of binding would indicate. The durable first binding gives us a book which can be in constant service from 100 to 150 times from the day it goes to the shelves, just when it is most needed. A book once or twice rebound in the first few months of its life is a special source of annoyance—the paradox is permissible—by its very absence.

In the Newark library an examination of 56 books, chiefly novels, from 15 or 20 different publishers, shows that on the average they were lent in publishers' binding only 25 times each before being rebound; and that 42 books in the juvenile department were lent in the publishers' binding an average of only 17 times each.

In bindings and rebindings one of the most essential things to be secured is ease of opening. A book that opens out easily, and lies flat without being pressed or held in position, will probably keep clean and whole for more than twice as many lendings as one that is held together tightly at the back. As a great many of the library books which call for rebindings have to be trimmed at the back and overcast, it is essential that the overcast sewing be of a flexible nature, one that permits of the easy opening of the book. Probably few of the factors in book construction and book injury have been more effective than the tight binding, held open with difficulty, which is produced by nearly all of the current overcasting or whip-stitching.

Another point that can not be too strongly insisted on is that books not only differ from one another in their natures and so require different treatment in binding; but also differ in the use they are to receive, and require different bindings on that account.

It should be understood that book-binding is a craft in the best sense of that word. To bind a book well calls for good judgment and care at every step. The librarian can draw up schedules with infinity of detail, and make them as correct as he may please, basing them on experience without end; and the binder, so far as material and processes are concerned, may seem to follow these specifications exactly, and still may produce poor bindings. To secure a good binding the spirit of the binder must go into it. In drawing the thread, in paring and placing the leather, in applying the paste and glue, and in every other of the many processes involved, the man without good will, as the man

without skill, can spoil the whole binding. Librarians should learn to esteem bookbinding highly. It is a craft which lies close to them. It is preëminently their business to encourage it to grow in excellence. They should develop their local binder's interest in his calling, stand by him, urge him on to better work, and pay him adequately for it.

One may frankly say that the character of binding done in nearly all libraries in America has been, up to the present time, a discredit to the library profession. We owe it to ourselves to take up this craft and do what we can to elevate it.

One objection sometimes made to bindings of the highest grade is that they last too long; and after the book is too greatly soiled and tattered within to be longer kept, the binding itself still holds, showing that more care has been put into its construction, and consequently more cost, than it needed. The objection needs only to be stated for its absurdity to be seen. The thorough binder, the skilled craftsman, adapts his binding to the book and to the use, as far as he can judge of it, which it is to receive.

He binds each book so well that it will hold together to the end of time; or until its paper fairly drops to pieces. He can issue with each volume no guarantee that it will not receive more than its proper baptism of dirt from careless borrowers long before the paper in it begins to give way and fray out. The binder's obligation is to bind the book well. It is the librarian's business to see that the book is, as to its interior, well treated. As to its binding lasting too long, why should the librarian concern himself about the shell after the kernel is eaten?

The sum of all my observations is, the best is the cheapest. If a book is worth binding let it be bound by the best man available. If possible, buy books so well bound from the publishers' sheets, that they will never need to be bound again.

You can not conjure golden deeds out of leaden instincts.

### Binding, Historic and Artistic\*

Robert W. Adams, Springfield, Mass.

As we study into the history of bookbinding it is surprising to find how little the processes of putting a book together by the best hand binders of today, vary from the methods in use 14 or 15 centuries ago. The materials have changed—we sew the book on linen cords instead of on strips of parchment or rawhide, and as the sheets are of paper instead of vellum, we do not need the heavy wooden boards to hold them flat, so use binders boards, and we rarely cover with anything but leather. The workmanship of today is much more accurate, neater and more finished, but the essential principles, the foundation of binding, do not differ greatly.

In the very early days the Babylonians and the Assyrians kept their records of all kinds on tablets of baked clay. To protect them these tablets had cases also made of baked clay. Some records had three or four cases one within the other so if the outer cases were broken the tablet would still be safe. A step forward was made in the use of leaden tablets fastened together with rings.

A more convenient and more portable form of book, if we may call it such, though still awkward to handle, was the Egyptian roll made of thin strips of papyrus glued together in some way into sheets 8 to 14 inches wide and sometimes several yards long and fastened at each end to a cylinder of wood or ivory often beautifully carved. As one unrolled the papyrus, to read, from one cylinder it was rolled up on the other. The Greeks and Romans used similar rolls but made of parchment. The books of the Hindoos were made of strips of palm leaf two or three inches wide and one or two feet long. These strips were pierced at each end, and strung something like Venetian blinds. A carved piece of wood, ivory, or even gold, was placed on the top and bottom when they were closed, and the whole tied together.

\*Read before Western Massachusetts library club, May 19, 1905.

The Buddhists used sacred books made in a similar way, but these were sometimes written on strips of wood, gold or ivory.

Books of bark folded like the plaits of an accordion were formerly used by the Battaks of Sumatra. It is interesting to note that when the Europeans first came to America the Aztecs, those people who arouse one's interest in so many ways, were using books like those of the Battaks, but made of a kind of paper.

The wax tablets of the Romans were certainly a form of book, for there were sometimes as many as 20 wax-covered strips of wood fastened together at the back with wire. As early as the third or fourth century A. D. the folded book written on both sides of the sheet had made its appearance.

Philtatius, an Athenian man of letters who lived early in the fifth century, is supposed to be the first to glue the back of books and use stiff covers instead of simply sewing together loose sheets.

The great expanse of wooden covers, usually covered with leather of some kind, demanded some sort of decoration and carved ivories were first used, the metal workers putting on bosses to protect the ivories, and clasps or hooks to keep the book shut. A little later books were covered with the finest work of the gold and silversmiths and were set with jewels. Benvenuto Cellini received 6000 crowns for decorating a book cover. Still later we find the decorations to be of beautiful enamels on metal.

Books were very precious in the middle ages, for the work of transcribing was great and parchment was becoming scarce and no expense seemed too great for the adornment of the treasured volumes—mostly sacred books. Very few of these valuable bindings still exist. During the Reformation in England nearly all these books—at least the covers—were destroyed under an act "to strip off and pay into the king's treasury all gold and silver found on popish books of devotion." No one except princes and monks could practice more than one art, so it happened that up to the in-

vention of printing practically all books were transcribed and bound by the monks, every large abbey having its scriptorium, a room or rooms set apart for this work.

During the Tudor and Stuart periods sacred books were often covered with silk, satin or velvet richly embroidered with gold and silver threads and pearls.

The panel stamp was invented in The Netherlands about the middle of the fourteenth century. With it the side of a small book could be decorated at one impression, and when, after the invention of printing, books were issued in comparatively large numbers, the usefulness of the panel stamp became apparent and it was adopted in other countries. Scenes from the Bible were often represented in these stamps, while pictures of birds and strange beasts were quite common. The decoration of book covers in the Grolier style, for instance, was too expensive for most people, so the interlaced pattern was stamped, while the powdering, curves, leaf forms, etc., were put in by hand. This work was poor. A little later, when the imitating of hand tooling was given up, and stamps were cut from original designs, some very attractive covers were put out. We are still using stamps, sometimes on leather in imitation of hand tooling and always on editions bound in cloth.

Down to the end of the fourteenth century the boards were flush with the sheets as the book was kept on its side, fore edge to the front, with metal bosses to protect the cover. When inclined reading desks came into use and when books were stood on shelves with the title painted on the fore edge, which was still kept towards the front, the size of the boards was increased to protect the leaves.

Almost every kind of leather was used by the early binders and the monks were allowed a fixed portion of the skins of deer killed in certain parks. The wooden boards were sometimes so thick they were hollowed out for the reception of a relic of a saint.

Chained books were common all over

Europe at an early period. One end of a chain was fastened securely to one of the covers of the book and the other end to a ring sliding on an iron rod so the book could be taken from the shelf and moved a short distance.

The fame of Venice was spread throughout the world by means of her commerce, and artisans were attracted to that and other cities of Italy from many countries, and it was undoubtedly through some of the Eastern workmen that gold tooling was introduced into Italy, probably the latter part of the fifteenth century.

The designs during the Renaissance were carried out by the workers who decorated all leather from book covers and jewel cases down to boots, which at that time were often embellished with fine arabesques in gold.

Jean Grolier was a most famous patron of binders as well as of printers. He was treasurer of the duchy of Milan and later ambassador from France to Pope Clement the seventh. In 1545 he became treasurer of France and two years later finance minister. He collected a large library, some 3000v., of which 350 are known to exist, having four to five copies of some books that he might lend them to his friends. While in Italy he met Aldus, that renowned printer of Venice, and many of his books came from the Aldine Press. Grolier was the first to use morocco as it is now dressed, and a great number of his books are bound in that leather, although he used brown calf also. The covers of his books were often decorated with a geometrical design, which was sometimes painted in colors, combined with curves and arabesques either solid, azure or in outline in gold. Grolier probably took binders with him when he returned to France, though whether he did or not is not definitely known. At any rate it was about that time that the artistic merit of French bindings increased rapidly, and it was not long before France produced finer bindings than any other country, taking the leadership away from Italy. Thomas Maioli was a contemporary of

Grolier and also had his books bound very handsomely.

The decoration of the edges of books used to receive much attention, but now we very rarely see any of that beautiful work. One form of decoration was to gild over marbling. The tooled or gauffered edges are made by striking the heated tool on the gilded edges before burnishing. After burnishing the pattern shows dull on a bright ground. Or it may be that a second layer of gold of another color is used. Then after the tool is impressed the superfluous gold is removed and we have the design in one color gold on a ground of a different color. A very delightful fashion was to fan out the edges of a book and paint on some scene—a landscape, perhaps—then the book was closed and the edges gilt in the ordinary way. The picture did not show until the leaves were turned.

We know but little of the early binders, but in the seventeenth century in France we hear of the Eves; and of Le Gascon, who used tools cut in dotted outline. When the cover or portions of it was closely decorated with these tools it fairly sparkled. No one has been able to equal Le Gascon in this style of decoration though many have tried.

In the eighteenth century the most prominent binders were the Deromes, of whom there were 18, Nicholas, known as the Younger Derome, being the most famous. He was noted for his dentelle or lace-like borders. Antoine Pasdeloup was the greatest of the 15 binders of that name. He showed much taste and originality in his decorations and his forwarding was also excellent. Then there were Monnier, famous for mosaic bindings, and Du Seuil.

During the Revolution and for a while afterwards France produced few good bindings, and England took the lead for a time. Roger Payne was the most original English binder of the eighteenth century. He used very small tools, which he cut himself, and did some of his best work on Russia leather, which was then coming into fashion. He did excellent work but could not let liquor



alone and died a penniless drunkard in 1797.

Some of the prominent binders of the nineteenth century were Trautz-Bauzonnet, Chambolle-Duru, Ruban, Lortic and Marius Michel. Their decorative work is most perfect in execution but lacking in originality. Their tools are evenly and accurately struck and the gold is brilliant and clear cut, but most of the forwarding is poor—the backs being so stiff the books do not open well.

Charles Lewis, Francis Bedford, Robert Reviere, Roger de Coverly, Joseph Zaehnsdorf and his son Joseph, who has succeeded to the business, are noted English binders of the last century. Cedric Chivers with his other work is producing "Vellucent" bindings. A drawing or a painting with as many colors as the artist wishes is made and covered with fine translucent vellum, the two being pressed until disseverable. As the decoration is underneath the vellum, seen through it, no bosses are necessary to protect it and the book may be put on the shelf without injury to its neighbors.

Douglas Cockerell, who has written *Bookbinding and the care of books*, which Mr Dana recommends so highly, has finished his apprenticeship with Mr Cobden-Sanderson and is in business for himself. The Guild of women binders has been formed with a bindery at Hampstead where they have also opened a school of binding. Miss S. T. Priedeaux is renowned for bindings as well as for her writings on this branch of the craftsman's art.

Among lovers of really choice bindings, T. J. Cobden-Sanderson is, without doubt, the best-known English binder of the present day. Born in 1840, he took up binding in 1883 when he was over 40 years old, having studied engineering, for the church, dabbling in literature and medicine, and practiced law for 13 years. When William Morris was making his earnest and sincere plea to the people to lead better lives and to have more beauty in their surroundings, Cobden-Sanderson was found in that

notable group of his intimate friends and followers. Mr Sanderson studied binding for less than a year. For eight or nine years the binding was done in the home, he, himself, doing all the work except the sewing, which was done by his wife, a daughter of Richard Cobden.

In 1892 or 1893 the Doves bindery was established in Hammersmith next to the Kelmscott Press then recently founded by William Morris. I believe Mr Sanderson does little work in the bindery now, but he makes all the designs. Cobden-Sanderson has succeeded in breaking away from the imitative style of the other English binders and has created a form of decoration of his own. Brander Matthews says he is the only original English binder since Roger Payne. His example has inspired many other binders and designers to discard the old conventions and seek new ideas. Some are succeeding while others are making book covers that are beyond expression.

It is largely, very largely, due to Cobden-Sanderson's initiative and influence that bookbinding has taken its place among the arts and crafts. Many women especially have studied binding with this famous artisan and have returned to their homes where they in turn have taken pupils. The art of bookbinding is not learned in a comparatively short time as are many of the arts and crafts, but nevertheless some of Mr Sanderson's pupils, and occasionally a pupil's pupil, are doing good work. Much interest and enthusiasm have been aroused in fine bindings and this constantly growing appreciation helps to make it possible for the real artists to dispose of their work.

In America there was no artistic binding, except for a very short period just after the Revolutionary war, until the middle of the nineteenth century. William Matthews, who came to New York in 1846, saw at once the lack of artistic bindings and of workmen capable of producing them. At the exposition of 1853 he succeeded in winning the silver medal in competition with English and French binders. The few fine bindings

he made after that time are very choice. He has done more than any one else to raise the art of bookbinding in this country. He was succeeded in business by his son Alfred, and he in turn by his finisher Stikeman, who enjoys a reputation as one of the best binders in America.

The Club bindery was started in New York in 1896 by several members of the Grolier club. Many of the book lovers had been sending their treasured volumes to France to be bound, but the delay and risk due to transportation over the sea, the desire for a personal supervision and the wish to raise the standard in this country determined these men to establish a bindery at home where they could have the work done as they wished by the best of craftsmen and none but the best of materials used.

In mosaic or inlaid bindings the inlay so called is really an onlay, the leather being pared very thin and pasted onto the leather covering the book. Ralph Randolph Adams of New York claims to be able to cut the leather in which the book is bound clear to the board and inlay leather of different colors, fitting and cementing them so perfectly that a design may be tooled over the joint and that the leathers will not pull apart, the fault in old bindings, which were truly inlaid, but time alone will prove the durability of his process. Mr Adams calls this Viennese inlay. Otto Zahn, with S. C. Toof & Co. of Memphis, Tenn., is well known for his fine bindings.

Evelyn Hunter Nordhoff was, I believe, the first American woman who undertook the whole work of forwarding and finishing, intending to make it her life work. She became interested in binding while in London, and on returning to this country attempted to study in several of the New York binderies. Although she worked in various shops she found it impossible for a woman to learn binding in its entirety, so she went back to London and took a six months' course with Cobden-Sanderson. On returning to New York she opened a bindery and took pupils, believing and constantly preaching artistic bookbinding

to be a work in which women could succeed. She died a few years later and some of her friends founded the Nordhoff bindery to carry on her work. Florence Foote, a pupil of Miss Nordhoff and of Cobden-Sanderson, is at the head of this school which is now allied with the Art students' league. There are now many teachers of bookbinding all through the country, but I know of only one school where the tuition fees are merely nominal as they are for drawing, designing, etc., in so many schools, and that is the School of industrial arts in Trenton, N. J. The Free academy of Norwich, Conn., in its art school, conducted well-attended classes in bookbinding for three years, for which the tuition charges were but little greater than for the other courses, then gave them up because of lack of funds. Emily Preston of New York and Ellen Gates Starr of Chicago are two of Cobden-Sanderson's pupils who have achieved some fame and are working and teaching along the lines laid down at the Doves bindery.

I have spoken at some length of Cobden-Sanderson and his pupils because I believe we owe them a debt of gratitude for all they have done to interest people in binding and for spreading knowledge of what constitutes good workmanship, for the greater the knowledge of bindings the better will be even our ordinary books.

### Men Build as They Think.

Throughout the stream of human life, and thought, and activity, men have ever felt the need to build; and from the need rose the power to build. So, as they thought, they built; for, strange as it may seem, they could build in no other way. As they built, they made, used and left behind them records of their thinking. Then, as through the years new men came with changed thoughts, so arose new buildings, in consonance with the change of thought—the building always the expression of the thinking. Whatever the character of the thinking, just so was the character of the building.—*Louis Sullivan in The craftsman for May.*

### Better Bookbinding for Libraries

Henry Evelyn Bliss, librarian, College of the city of New York

The chief infirmities of modern bookbinding are assignable to the following causes: 1) the poor quality of most of modern paper; 2) lack of flexibility in the back and joint; 3) imperfect sewing; 4) weak attachment of the book to its cover; 5) the perishable material used for covering.

**1 Paper**—Some publishers use very good paper, with a large percentage of rag, especially for the finer books; but of course the cost is considerably greater than for wood-pulp. Yet good rag paper does not favor cheap illustration. These numerous illustrations, though often of great educative value, result in uneconomical books. The "half-tone" reproduction so much in vogue requires very smooth, even highly polished paper. Many of our art books, sometimes rather costly volumes, are printed on a very heavy paper, "loaded" and coated with clay. The leaves are too stiff and brittle, the volume is too heavy and will not hold together long in wear. Besides being of very poor fibre, this shiny paper is for night reading very trying to some sensitive eyes. Some books, on the other hand, are surprisingly light in weight, printed in strong type on very soft, spongy paper, pleasant to the eye, and flexible enough, but not of sufficient toughness to hold the stitches. A few illustrations on smooth paper are sometimes tipped with paste and inserted, the last things put in, the first to come out. For the better class of books, both these extremes should be avoided.

It has been proposed that a special library edition, printed on durable paper should, when feasible, be provided for the more important public libraries. For books with illustrations in the text this would not be feasible; in others full-page illustrations might be inserted by folding them around the sheets and sewing them in with the book. For novels with a large sale, for cheap or ephemeral books, for the transitory whims of literature, a special edition would not be

worth while; but books that are likely to have prolonged life and usefulness, and books which it is desirable to preserve in libraries, it would undoubtedly be more economical to have printed on durable paper, and moreover to have them delivered in sheets for binding, with backs unmarred by saw cuts and machine sewing. As to the feasibility of obtaining books from "sheet stock," assurance has been given me by three leading American publishers that there would be no difficulty, no reasonable objection, to reserving say 200 copies for the library demand, nor even to printing a special edition, provided this demand were well defined. This does not mean that a subscription list would usually be required, though in some cases it might be. But after a while, the demand for a certain class of books would be recognized, and in many cases would be anticipated. One of the functions of the A. L. A. might be to keep the publishers informed of this special demand.

The weakness of modern paper is manifest in the loosening of leaves and their tearing away from the stitches, in the parting of the "paste-down" papers at the joints, and in the cracking of side papers along the edges of the boards. Of the latter two infirmities more special mention will be made presently. The first, the loosening of leaves, is one of the commonest and most grievous maladies of books, particularly as it is so likely to afflict the young, the new, books lately purchased or recently rebound. The paper is too poor to hold the stitches when any strain is put upon it. This infirmity, however, is not only due to the poorness of the paper, but the second and third chief causes mentioned above, the imperfect sewing and lack of flexibility in the back, are here equally operative.

**2 Imperfect sewing**—When books are sewed "two sheets" on, that is, when the thread passes from one band in one sheet to the next band in the sheet above it, then back to the other sheet at the third band and so on, each sheet is held by the thread along only part of its fold, and is therefore the less secure. If



the paper is weak, the sheet is then doubly weakened. Sewing "two sheets on" is common in cheap work, as it saves time and thread; but it is a cheat, and what little it saves the binder is a grave loss to the book. For a librarian to shave prices to this result is folly. It should not be permitted when there are less than four bands, and in larger books only when there are five bands or more, and when necessitated by the number of sheets. Some bulky volumes of many thin sections it is not feasible to sew "all along" with linen thread, as that would cause too much swell for the back. Binders, however, often claim this when it is not true. Sometimes by using thinner thread the swell may be kept within limits while the back is made strong enough. Silk flattens, causing less swell and, if the value of the book justifies the extra cost, it may be used economically.

3 **Flexibility**—But however good the paper, and however well sewed, if the back is too inflexible, it is likely to be "broken." The reader, vexed at the book's obdurate cover, which seems disposed to shut in his face, grasps it with both hands and forces it into compliance with his comfort. A section may thus be forced out, or leaves may be pulled away from their threads by the pressure of the thumbs. The main cause of this inflexibility is glue—too much glue, or too stiff a glue, or the glue is allowed to penetrate too far between the sheets. The piece of crash commonly used as "lining-up" and "hinge" for casings gathers glue on the back and hardens. In leather bindings the "lining-up" paper is usually too thick, or not flexible enough, or is improperly pasted. Another common cause of stiffness is overcast sewing or "whipstitching," as the binders usually call it, and with this the fault is most pronounced. Mr Chivers, however, has a remarkable method of "oversewing," which produces very flexible and very strong backs. The sheets are first punched slantwise by a machine, the stitches cross one another from one sheet to the third and back, and so forth, the flexibility depending upon the free length of the stitch. Mr

Schleuning of this city also has an improved method of flexible overcasting. Except in small and in cheap books, in books of poor paper, and in those with dilapidated backs, overcasting is inadvisable, even in the flexible methods mentioned, because subsequent rebinding is usually impracticable. Cheap books, novels, etc., may, if the paper is flexible, be cheaply sewed by a machine that stitches through the sheets, making a seam about a quarter of an inch from the back, but if the paper is stiff it is likely to break along the seam. Stiffness of paper produces an apparent inflexibility of the back, though the cause is of a different nature, and the effects are different. Inflexibility is sometimes increased by the saw-cuts being too deep, or by their gathering glue.

The term "flexible" is applied to the olden method of sewing round "raised" bands, now rarely used except for the finer artistic or amateur binding. If the paper is not very stiff and if the sewing is done properly, such bindings do open very flexibly, though they lack the advantage of the "hollow" back flexibly lined up, and that of the firmer "spring back," both of which afford a flatter page. But for this "raised band" sewing the sheets are not mutilated with saw-cuts as they must be for the ordinary sewing, and a book may be rebound several times without becoming dilapidated at the back. Some books of permanent interest or value it is the custodian's duty to preserve as long as possible. Their longevity will depend not only on the quality of their paper but on the method of their binding, for at each rebinding a book suffers at the back as well as at the margins.

4 **Attachment**—Flexible sewing leads us to the next topic, the attachment of the book to its cover; for this method of sewing is usual only with so-called "tight" backs, that is, with the leather covering pasted directly to the entire surface of the back, being stretched and "worked" over the raised bands. This is undoubtedly a stronger attachment than the ordinary hinged cover with "hollow" back. In our library we have

used such raised-band, tight-back binding for years on hard-worked reference books, also for permanent books of value in frequent though not continual use; and the results have been highly satisfactory, such bindings wearing twice or thrice as long as similar books well bound in the ordinary library binding. This experience merely confirms the recommendation of the highest authorities. But flexible sewing requires more time, and sewers are less skilled in this method. Besides it is more difficult to cover the books and the cost therefore deters most librarians from adopting this binding even for reference books. Another objection, that the back wrinkles and the gilding suffers, applies less to library binding than to ornamental work. Good flexible morocco, properly applied, wears very well, and the lettering is impaired very little.

Some librarians make the compromise of using a tight back with ordinary sewing. For bulky books with flexible paper additional strength of the attachment is thus gained, particularly if a good "sewn-in" linen hinge reinforces the joint. For our college text-books of octavo size we use this so-called "false" tight back. But in our library the less valuable reference books, the atlases, and other very large flat books with ordinary sewing are strengthened with a piece of "flesher" or flannel glued to the back and extending an inch or more on each side as a hinge to be fixed, with the bands, into split or double boards, thus combining the advantages of the tight back with the hollow back. With a "sewn-in" silesia hinge, presently to be described, this binding is nearly as strong as a genuine tight back, though more likely to loosen—not to part—at the joint. It is particularly applicable to dictionaries with too many sections for economical flexible sewing. With all leather and duck bindings the bands, if cords, should be "laced" into the boards, and if tapes, should be inserted into split boards, or, for larger books, double boards. All heavy books and all books that are to have hard service

should have their joints reinforced with linen hinges.

The term "joint" is used by binders in two meanings, first, that part where the cover is joined to the back, second, the strip of crash, muslin, silesia, leather, or other material that, with the cords, form the attachment. In the latter sense the term "hinge", sometimes used, might well be adopted, while "joint" might be reserved for the former meaning.

In most bindings the hinge is a very flimsy affair. In cloth and buckram bindings, or casings, the crash lining up, with the frayed ends of the cords, is merely pasted down with the end-papers to the boards. But the weak paper parts and the crash, made brittle by glue, soon breaks, or the entire hinge pulls away from the board. The same insecure hinge is used in many of the cheaper bindings in half leather; but, if the leather costs more than a cloth cover, the difference is wasted money.

In bookbinding especially it should always be borne in mind that a narrow pasted edge, "tipped in," will not hold against an outward pull, though against a pull in the plane of the surfaces joined it may hold till the material parts. This explains why fly leaves and end-papers merely pasted to "whipstitched" end-sections tear away so easily, why linen joints that are merely pasted down on marbled end-papers are so ineffectual, and why false tight backs without laced-in bands and linen joints possess less strength than well-bound hollow backs. The customary way of strengthening the end-sheets for the strain at the joint is to whipstitch them. This is objectionable as it prevents the sheets from opening properly and therefore increases the very strain against which it is intended to guard. Moreover, when the cover does pull away, the end-sheet is usually left in deplorable condition. In our library whipstitching has been discarded except where it is necessary, as, for instance, when the backs of sheets are dilapidated, or where folios or plates must be overcast to form sections for sewing.

There are several forms of the "sewn-in" hinge. We recommend the follow-

ing, having proved them for several years.

A strip of silesia is pasted along one edge of the end-paper, then folded round the back of the end-section; the sewing passes through this, the hinge being thus firmly attached to the back of the book. When the free end is pasted down to the board, with the end-paper, the cover is strongly fastened.

This "sewn-in" hinge may be reinforced by a strip of thin paper, muslin, or linen, pasted along the inner fold of the end-sheet, and there securing the stitches. This is advisable if the paper is poor; if the back of the sheet is dilapidated, it should be reinforced by a strip of paper pasted along the outside of the fold. Title-pages often need thus to be guarded.

A third form of the sewn-in joint has the reinforcing strip on the inside of the end-section, but instead of the silesia hinge, the inner edge of the "paste-down" paper and of the fly leaf enfold the end-section and are sewed through. This joint is cheaper than the others described here, but if good linen paper is used for the "paste-down" sheet, it is strong enough for light casings.

In the three foregoing forms, care should be taken that the edge of the hinge does not project between the first and second sheets more than about a quarter of an inch, as thus it not only looks badly but is likely to cut the leaves. If the hinge is passed around two sections instead of one, this projecting edge becomes less objectionable. It may, however, be pasted flat on the next sheet.

Less simple, but very strong, and free from the last objection, is the joint used by Mr Chivers. Three strips are used, one reinforcing the end-paper, one reinforcing the fly leaf, the third as hinge, sewed through and joined to the book.

For tight backs especially, and for any bindings of the better grade, we have proved the worth of a joint described under the name of "zig-zag" by Douglas Cockerell in his excellent little handbook on bookbinding.

A few small and dainty books we have

had sewed on bands of twisted silk, though sewed with ordinary linen thread. Silk bands flatten so that the back need not be sawed. The book opens more flexibly, and the bands are less likely to chafe through at the joint.

A large percentage of the premature wrecks in bindings is owing to the frayed cords being chafed through at the joint when the paper hinge has parted and the boards play back and forth on the rasping edge of the crash. Tapes are much stronger and are less likely to chafe through. They are recommended by the best authorities, especially for tight backs, or for hollow backs with fleshier joints. But with tapes the boards must be "set off" from the joint to allow flexure, and this, after a year of hard wear, may result in a looseness—a less real than apparent weakness—at the joint. To remedy this the lining up of the back, instead of being "made on" the book, that is, merely folded back and forth, as is usual, is "made off," that is, rolled, a piece of muslin being enclosed—not crash, as this causes the gilding to crack. This lining-up, however, costs a few cents more, as it must be measured to the back and is a little more troublesome to apply; but without it tapes can not satisfactorily be used for hollow backs.

### Covering in Binding\*

The largest and most evident waste in bookbinding is due to modern tannage. The process is too rapid and the tanning agent is not always the best. Moreover in the dyeing sulphuric acid is often used to brighten the color, or acetic or some other acid is later used to clean the leather. Experiments have shown that it is almost impossible entirely to remove the sulphuric acid. Even a trace of acid means early death to leather. Some leathers unfit for books are largely used—sheepskin too commonly, whether under its true guise on law books or government documents, or masquerading as limp-morocco, grained morocco, or roan. All leathers of false grain are

\* Continuation of Better bookbinding for libraries.

injured by the process, in which a heated plate flattens or crushes the fibres. Calfskin, formerly so much in favor because its smooth surface took ornamentation excellently, is now inferior and little better than sheepskin. It has been customary to pare it too thin at the joint in order to set the boards snugly. Other leathers too have suffered by this paring. The under, inner side of a skin, the "flesher," is the strongest part. Levant being too thick for the smaller books is usually thus weakened. Levant tanned in this country is inferior. This and all the cheaper substitutes for morocco, also russia, whether imported or domestic, and cowhide (usually split), are subject to the disease known as the "red rot." The Persian goatskin so commonly used as a substitute for morocco (a skin in both senses of the word) is one of the most grievous impositions upon the unwary librarian, who accepts the lower bid and does not know enough about leather to detect the deception. Bindings in this material, standing unused, in 10 years lose their strength, and in 20 years are ready to fall to pieces with the gentlest handling. I have seen skins that, lying rolled up on a shelf for a few years, have darkened in color for some distance inwards from the edge and become as easy to tear as paper, but farther in, where the light and air had not reached, were still bright and comparatively strong. Persian has a similar but usually smaller and harder grain than genuine Turkey morocco, and its surface is less soft and oily; the skin is thinner and the dye stains through more, whereas the under side of a genuine skin is velvety and unstained, and wets less readily than the Persian. The morocco supplied by the German firm of Hausmann is generally regarded as the best. By some, however, the best French moroccos are deemed as good or preferable.

Bad as Persian is, "bock" is worse, a cheaper, thinner, weaker, friable goatskin—some say half goat, half sheep; it is certainly as poor, or poorer than sheep. It has been used by the Germans for a century or more with direful results. These inferior leathers are great dust

makers. They are unfit for books that are expected to last for more than 10 years. On books that are to be used up in circulation within five or 10 years, roan, a thin and well-finished unsplit sheepskin, very soft and flexible, may economically be used, particularly where laced-in bands and false tight backs are desired. Our college text-books were so bound for years; but roan is too soft and rubs through, and we have changed to the outer cowhide, which is harder and tougher. The flesher of cowhide, called "buffing," is used much on larger books, but its texture has been ruined by the dyeing and other processes. These less durable leathers sometimes last longer in use (provided the binding is strong) than they do when standing unused, as the trace of oil they receive from handling tends to preserve them, supplying the oil extracted by a faulty process. For large books pigskin of natural dye may be used, though levant is better and costs no more. Mr Chivers uses a small pigskin, well dyed, and guaranteed free from acid, which I believe to be a good leather at a lower price than morocco.

Duck, generally regarded as the most durable cheap material, especially for large books, has so coarse a texture that it suffers much from friction, particularly at the joints. It makes unattractive books, and it can not be lettered with gold. Black lettering is not objectionable, though it does not look neat; but labels peel off and should be avoided.

Buckram, the genuine English linen fabric, is strong but too stiff; the cloth sides used with it do not stick well; the bright colors fade, and on the best of the dull colors, an olive-brown, gilt lettering does not show plainly, nor does aluminum; moreover, being too hard for ordinary type, brass type is necessary.

The specially prepared cotton fabrics, the heavier sometimes called buckram, or art canvas, and the thinner vellum, or art vellum, wear better than ordinary cloths. The librarian of Congress says that cloths thus prepared will probably outlast most leathers of modern tannage. (Report for 1903, p. 39.) We use

them for casings, and for sidings of larger books.

Pegamoid, a cloth prepared with some gummy substance, we regard as likely to dry out and become brittle. Durable, prepared for Mr Chivers in some similar way, he claims will not soon deteriorate. Another cloth specially prepared for him is coated with some sizing that permits washing.

The ornamental papers in vogue are usually of wretched material, their value being chiefly on the surface; and most of them are as ugly as an Italian bandanna. They crack along the edges, and their wonderful but too gaudy designs are soon obliterated by wear. Stronger papers of French or English importation are obtainable, and on some of our smaller books these are much admired for neatness and even for beauty. They cost little more than the ordinary trash. Those having a firm, smooth surface wear best; those like the Morris papers, with a soft satin finish, though most beautiful, soil too easily.

For corners parchment is too hard and is likely to injure the hands or other bindings, besides in shrinking it bends the boards inward and renders them likely to break. We have substituted the cloth imitation of parchment, which is less hard but durable enough. The pointed corner seems an undesirable thing; it soon gets crushed down and looks as unsightly as an undarned knee. Rounded corners, such as Mr Chivers uses, seem generally preferable, but the large, triangular pointed corners of half and of three-quarters morocco and levant bindings are likely to continue to please readers of taste.

From the foregoing discussion of methods and materials it must now appear that the librarian has need of knowledge and judgment. It is not advisable to depend entirely on the workmanship and honesty of bookbinders—certainly not in the present state of the trade. At the outset a code of specifications should be agreed upon with the binder. In preparing books for the bindery, the required sewing, joint, materials, etc., should be specified for each

book, or lot of books, with reference to the size, quality of paper, condition of the book and its probable use, sometimes its value or literary character. These details should be set down, preferably on a sheet, in the form of symbols and numbers referring to placards. Such a system has been developed in this library and after several years' experience has proved very satisfactory, both to us and to our binders. The instructions are explicit and detailed, yet in most concise form; there are few errors and no disputes. The binder, knowing that his work is scrutinized, guards against errors and gives more conscientious service.

We have been gradually awakening to the fact that our library bindings are not economical. Some binders confess that the trade has been demoralized, but complain that this is the natural consequence of competitive underbidding to indiscriminating bargainiers. Progressive binders and librarians are seeking remedies and improved methods, as well as more honest materials and workmanship. Mr Chivers, the well-known English binder who has recently established himself in Brooklyn, has done somewhat both to arouse the interest of librarians and to stimulate the trade to better production.

Economical and satisfactory results will depend on good understanding and cheerful coöperation between binders and librarians. The librarian, recognizing the skill and intelligence employed, should be willing to pay a fair compensation, sufficient to keep respectable workmen in the trade. When profits are cut down too closely, we must look out for cheats, imitations, and inferior production. It is in the best interests of librarianship that a higher class of bookbinders should be trained in approved methods of library binding, that they should find it profitable to make a specialty of this branch of the business, and that in this higher grade of work the spirit of the true craftsman and artisan should be fostered apart from the meaner forms of competition.



### Bookbinding from the Librarian's Standpoint\*

W. K. Stetson, librarian, New Haven, Conn.

The matter of binding has always been, in my experience, a question of economy. Rare and valuable books have seldom presented themselves for binding. Little except fiction, periodicals and such books have had to be bound. For this reason the question with me has been what is the cheapest binding which can be used, fairly acceptable in appearance, with workmanship good enough for the service which the book will see, and of materials likewise simply equal to the demands of the case. I have always been searching for the most durable binding at the least cost. And while I am reasonably satisfied with the present bindings in our library, I am still searching.

I could therefore give quite a history of experiments both in the methods and the materials of binding. A list of the materials will be about all that I need to give. Sheep, skiver, a sheep of extra quality, russet in color, buffing, cowhide, roan, Persian morocco, pigskin, Turkey morocco, cotton buckram, linen buckram, drilling, denim, duck, canvas, Pegamoid, various kinds of regular book cloths.

As to methods of sewing, etc., we have used the orthodox sewing such as the ordinary binder uses, Crawford's, Chivers', Wales', and Brooks'.

We have had laced boards and the other kind, also the cloth joint, tight backs and loose backs.

The result of all this is that we have used for several years, and with a good deal of satisfaction, the Brooks binding, the best quality of Imperial morocco cloth for covering material.

It is very likely true that we might economize a little more by using the best American book cloths on many of our books. We should save 2 cents a volume in this way. But in point of fact we have not taken this amount of trouble, by sorting out the books in

which this less costly cloth would do just as well.

Very likely a good many libraries might find the best wearing American cloths entirely equal to their needs, and there is not the slightest doubt that all libraries bind books which have so little use that almost any book cloth will answer.

But if there is any doubt how much wear a book will have, it seems to us wiser to spend 2 cents a volume more for the best cloth.

I have in mind generally the small sizes, octavos and smaller. Many quartos and even some folios can also be put into cloth. But the heavier quartos and folios we think generally do better in duck. Some libraries use duck for small books. My objection is that duck does not have a pleasant feeling; it's too rough to suit me.

In our experience we have never found the best quality of Imperial morocco cloth to wear out on the hinge. Perhaps about one-seventh of the books that we bind in it are reseeded and put back in the same covers. One thing that we should like to find is sewing good enough to last till the books wear out. Whether this is possible in the case of rebound books I do not know. We have found it true universally with no binding except Mr Chivers' binding from the sheets.

There may be some cases in which some sort of leather backs would be best. But at present we think we save at least 10 cents a volume by using cloth. And as long as we can reseed and use the same covers I do not see how leather backs will be of any advantage to us. That is a point on which very likely I need some instruction.

Genuine Turkey morocco seems to be the only good leather for permanent bindings. And my present feeling is that it is a very exceptional book which I would put in that binding. With the improved or revived tanning which will give leather equal to the old leathers some qualification can be made. But I am speaking of the leathers in the market.

\*Read at meeting of Western Massachusetts library club, Springfield, May 19, 1905.

Of course most of our library binding is not permanent binding. The book will either wear out, or it will go out of date, and it will be a mercy if there is a good excuse for discarding it. But on the theory that the book is to remain in the library, the right kind of cloth is in my opinion the most desirable binding material for small books and duck or canvas for large books.

We shall be very much interested in the Durabline of Mr Chivers and in the leathers which he is to use.

Durabline is particularly interesting because it gives a washable material. We have read recently in the library periodicals of varnishing books. I have never tried this. But a lot of books bound in a smooth Pegamoid kept very bright for years. Hence I think some such material as Mr Chivers is having made will perhaps do much to solve the problem of keeping bindings clean.

There is only one point about the sewing of books that I need to speak of at all, as I do not know much about the technical processes anyway.

The cloth joint, to which is attached the first and last signature, we find one of the most valuable features of a binding. Very rarely indeed does this give out, while laced bands very often do. It seems to me the reason is very obvious. The band takes the pressure along the whole height of the book; while the bands have to bear the pressure at a few points. Besides preventing the covers from breaking away, the first and last leaves of the book are less likely, very little likely, to tear out. When we used the ordinary orthodox methods this was often the case, and books discarded on account of the loss of the last leaf. Sewing of course must be strong.

With this cloth joint laced bands are superfluous. In fact, in my experience, they are anyway. And yet this is a point insisted upon by many librarians.

The lettering of books presents a field for economy. Many librarians put on the lettering in ink themselves, and some persons are quite skillful in this respect. But in our library we use dark

colors and this would necessitate white ink, and we have not succeeded in finding any which had very good wearing qualities. One brand was recently recommended in one of the library periodicals. Aside from this, one economy is to have duck bindings lettered on the cloth direct in ink without any lettering label. This economy is quite satisfactory. Another economy which I tried once, in imitation, I think, of Mr Fletcher, was to have a lot of titles of periodicals printed in quantity and paste these on the cloth-bound volumes. But this requires some care to make the result satisfactory, and for my part I gave up that proceeding some years ago.

I suppose there is no standard possible for comparison of durability of bindings. I recently had an inquiry from a librarian as to how many issues a binding would last. Most of the volumes which we discard are simply in our opinion too dirty for further use inside. Now there is no standard of cleanliness, and we could make a large record for the wearing qualities of bindings if we lowered our standard of cleanliness. So again we send books for rebinding when the weakness developed is in our opinion quite slight, while some libraries will keep a book in circulation until it is nearly in pieces. I would suggest therefore that personal inspection of books in a library is necessary to get any very intelligent idea about the wearing qualities of bindings. Possibly it is a difference in standard which accounts for the variations of reports in this respect.

We have a great many books rebound which are issued over 100 times after rebinding once. But just what the average number of issues is I do not know.

Books having infrequent use, if not oversize, will last quite as well in cloth as in leather. Book cloth will answer even better than expensive morocco, since heat and gas have no effect on its vegetable fiber. It must be remembered, though, that cloth work is generally case work and will not stand much wear.—*World's fair papers.*

### Preparing for the Binder

Mary R. Caldwell, librarian, The Jacob Tome institute, Port Deposit, Md.

Is there one of us who does not dread it—getting ready for the binder? Until two years ago, the greatest hobgoblin of our library was the binder, and that through no fault of his, for we had and still have a good binder.

It is a firmly fixed belief in our library that poor binding is as much—yea, more—the fault of the librarian than that of the binder. If directions to the binder are imperfect, how can we expect results to be perfect? If our directions do not tally with the volume we desire to have returned to us, surely we can not expect to have our *Century*, *Forum* and *Science* each appearing as one complete set of books turned out from a first-class publishing house, and why should not our *Century* be as complete and perfect a set of books as the *Cyclopedia Americana* or the *Historians' history of the world*? It can be if the librarian in charge of the binding is determined to have it so. Most binders will do as directed if the directions are explicit enough, and the director firm enough to have all mistakes corrected at the binder's expense. If this is not true of the binder for your library, then it is time to employ one who can and will follow instructions. First, though, we must be sure that the fault is not ours, but the binder's.

I know binding where no two volumes of the set are exactly alike; in some, the title varies either in number of words or number of lines; sometimes the volume number of the set is in Arabic and again in Roman numerals, and sometimes—this quite frequently—there is no volume number at all; sometimes the year is above the volume number, sometimes below; often inclusive months are tooled on, many times they are not; sometimes the months are given in full, sometimes abbreviated—then even the abbreviations vary; again, the color of binding changes from light brown to dark brown, or even to red; then the lining and spacing assume every possible variation. It is surprising how many changes can

be wrung out of those listed above, so that a library can have a large set of books and yet have no two alike. This is not an imaginary case—it is a deplorably existing fact. I have seen much binding, and not one set, but many sets, of this kind. When these books are opened, does one expect to find title-pages, indexes and a complete volume in other respects? If so, there will be great disappointment in store for him. If a volume happens to be complete, one may exclaim, Happy accident! Whose fault was this inconsistency—the binder's or the individual's who prepared for the binder?

How shall these faults be remedied? Librarians have different methods. One library sends a sample copy of each periodical to be bound. This is well when the library is changing binders. When these samples are sent, the binder should be instructed to take an exact copy of the back of each book—title, year, month, abbreviations, volume number, book number, lining, spacing, type, material, color—everything, in fact, pertaining to each periodical. It is surely a bad plan to send sample copies each time as the library must be without the use of these samples while the binder works; the wear and tear of packing and unpacking the books must also be considered. Then, too, if this method is pursued, the librarian is apt to assume that the binder surely copied the samples, and accordingly the collation is neglected or done very carelessly, with the result, in a few years, of binding being in the condition of that already described. Nor is this an imaginary case. I have seen binding with no two volumes alike, where a sample was sent year after year. Whose fault was this? I should say the fault has a double factor this time, but still the main blame rests with the librarian who accepted the work. If the binder did not follow his samples, then the librarian should make him do the work over. If he will not, a change of binders becomes necessary.

But this sample method is far from good. Many librarians make out slips for each periodical to be bound from a



volume known to be perfect, writing on separate leaves of small pads the title in exact words, spacing and lines, the date—with proper rotation of year, month and volume desired—giving the color and material on the side or back of these slips. This method we pursued until two years ago. It required great care not to make a mistake, and with all our care, frequently an abbreviation was changed or an apostrophe left off. With the necessity of keeping our other work going, we were sometimes three weeks in preparing for the binder. Two years ago, while doing this, we thought: Why throw away all this labor every year? Why not make exact forms on canceled catalog cards of each periodical to be bound? Accordingly, we immediately set to work to make out forms for winter binding. We went to the shelves of each periodical set and made exact copies of each title, date, volume number, book number, etc., verifying these as we proceeded, then sent some one else to verify, so as to be sure that these were perfect. Now, when we prepare for the binder, we go to our files of unbound periodicals, see that each volume is complete and perfect, tie it up, change the volume number, year when necessary, on our binder's samples; then we go to our desk and sit down, and in a quiet, comfortable way, make out the slips to go to our binder, and verify them or have some one else do so. We prepare in two or three days now for our binder, where we used to take as many weeks.

The results from our binder are fine; we rarely find it necessary to send back a book, but we do return it if even an apostrophe or an abbreviation is wrong. We are receiving good, consistent work, and for the price we pay, we might say artistic work, as our books are in harmony inside and outside—we insist that the linings shall harmonize with the outsides. We have had this binder four years, and find that he improves all the time. Now we have a secret belief that our improved method of sending this work has a great deal to do with the fine

condition of the work returned to us. We prepare sample cards for our binder to follow. If the periodical has four volumes to a year, we make out four cards, one for each volume as the months will vary, thus offering a chance for a mistake. Everything is written with ink except the last figure in the year and the volume number. These are written with pencil, so that the number can be changed when necessary. We have the article The written above *Cosmopolitan*, *Bookman*, and some other magazines, not that we especially desire it, but for harmony, as when we began, this was the form in use.

#### How the Binding of Books Began\*

Almost from time immemorable the deeds of the fathers, the doings of the day, the discoveries, prophecies, experiences of living men at any age in the progress of time, were in some way recorded, whether their stones, gems, day tablets, sheets of lead, the bark and leaves of trees, the skins of animals, woven fabrics and, finally, paper was used in the attempt to preserve knowledge. Therefore, a cover for the inscribed surface early became a necessity—a clay, metal or wooden box to hold tablets, a cylinder for papyrus, strips of wood between which were strung leaves of palm, squares of rough leather in which the leaves of finer membrane or vellum were wrapped, then pieces of board front and back, between which precious writings on vellum or paper were laced through their back margins, while at least these laced or sewed edges were covered with pliable leather and the book was bound. In almost no other craft has the long past, the middle age, the immediate past been so closely, continuously and so simply connected with our present. And perhaps, to most people, the major attraction of all these lies in the present and is based on its cheapness or garnishness and a somewhat handy utility.

\*From an address of F. B. Gay before the Arts and crafts club of Hartford, Conn.

## Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$1 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$4 a year
Single number	- - - - -	20 cents
Foreign subscriptions	- - - - -	\$1.35 a year

PUBLIC LIBRARIES does not appear in August or September, and 10 numbers constitute a volume

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post office money orders should be sent.

**A binding number**—Binding is the chief topic of discussion in this number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES. This is a subject in which considerable interest is taken at this time, and an effort has been made to give here material that will be of value in studying the subject from the viewpoint of library use. The report of the A. L. A. committee on binding will add to the interest and doubtless lead to a careful study of the whole matter.

**Is good health incompatible with good work?**

The recent serious breakdown of so many library workers in the United States gives cause for those interested to inquire into the reason for such happenings. Is there anything in the active administration of a library or in the work in any of its departments that naturally leads to such results? This is a question which has had some discussion in library assemblies. It may be said, however, that the consideration which has been given to this subject has not been free from such feelings as has made it impossible to reach a right conclusion, or impress the value of a right attitude toward the subject on the people who need it most. Those who are in a position to lead in opinion concerning it have not been able to free themselves from the feeling that to acknowledge that

such a condition exists is to acknowledge also that something is amiss in their own particular part of the library field. Hence, there is not the calm, impartial admission of conditions with a resultant attempt to better them that the situation demands. Here and there is one who has rational ideas on the subject and puts them into effect; but the vast majority seems to feel that the admission of the fact that the pace is too fast, that the ambition to accomplish is too fervid, or to say it is commendable to take things with a proper amount of leisure, is to be wanting in proper professional zeal. The experience of every day for many years has proven this to be a wrong position. If the splendid workers who, because of what is termed overwork, are often out of commission, would do a much less amount of work under pressure, both self-inflicted and applied, it is fair to assume that there would be more accomplished in the end and the work would enjoy their continued presence in its midst.

When one contemplates the list one is obliged to face the question, What is the reason that library people have contracted and continue the sanitarium habit?

That women are the greatest sufferers in this line can not be denied. Probably it is part of their feminine temperament and it will always be so, but there is no reason why it should be carried to such a degree as is in evidence today. But men librarians also contribute their share in proportion to their number, of those who are "laid up for repairs."

In almost no other profession are these conditions to be found. Teachers, lawyers, doctors, college professors and the like, in proportion to their numbers, do

not furnish the same number of breakdowns as are counted in library work.

Here is a topic that will bear investigation, and a situation that calls for rational treatment and the application of effective preventive measures.

**The present tide in fiction**—A very interesting phase of popular fiction is the things that give color to the popularity. Religious novels, novels descriptive of southern life, the historical novel and the present tide of novels dealing with commercialism are all well-known examples of the variations of the stream that never ebbs. It is an unsettled question as to what causes the popularity. Advertising, questions of the day, movements in society have all been cited as causes, but no definite judgment has been uttered and accepted by the general public.

At the Massachusetts library club recently a very interesting statement of conditions was made by Miss Morison of the Women's educational association, who is a member of three committees charged with passing on books for public libraries. Speaking of the value of fiction of the day Miss Morison said:

The most striking feature is the wide variance between the verdicts of the library readers and those of the booksellers in their "best sellers" announcements. Lists made up of these two sorts are practically never similar, and only rarely will a book meet the approval of members of the reading committee and be also a "best seller."

Among examples instanced were McCutcheon's Nedra, a "best seller," but which was pronounced by all committee readers extremely dull. The same was said of The house of 1000 candles and of Double trouble, both of which figure in "best selling" lists. The truth about Tolna was pronounced commonplace and of no interest by practical "readers" of the kind mentioned, and The dark lan-

tern was unanimously objected to on moral grounds, but was prominent in the booksellers' favor. Concerning Paul and Fiammetta was given as an example of a book almost overlooked in the "best selling" world, and which was unanimously lauded by the "readers."

When the "unlearned" librarian is confronted with a situation like this it is time that somewhere in the journey toward librarianship, provision be made at least for a few standards of choice which will serve as reliable guides in selecting material, and that more emphasis be laid on the importance of following them.

**The death of Dr Richard Garnett**—Dr Richard Garnett, C. B., who for nearly half a century was connected with the famous library of the British museum, died at his home near London April 13, in his seventy-second year. Dr Garnett was a scholarly man possessed of much learning, having been a student all his life. He wrote well in a wide range of subjects, both prose and poetry. Personally he was a most delightful gentleman and it is safe to say that no one ever approached him on any mission that was not courteously and pleasantly received.

Says the *London Tribune*:

Dr Garnett's career would be notable if only as a proof that life in the company of books need not chill and narrow a man's sympathies or dry up his imagination.

The *London Morning post* well says of him in speaking of his wide literary knowledge and work:

The man who did all this was certainly in point of training and acquirements on the first plane. Yet he had not enjoyed the advantages which are conventionally supposed to be necessary to the attainment of that level. He had had no university training, having been from a boy engaged in the museum, where his father had served before him. That he made himself what he was in knowledge, in character, and in humanity is a striking testimony to the value of the library of which he was an ornament and of the tradition which is there established.

He was interested in the library associations of England from their organizations and did much to help their work.

### Library Reading Course

#### Relations of libraries and schools

The public school is but half of the machinery of public education, although until the present the school has had the almost undivided attention of our public educators and the masses of our people, including a fair proportion of our educators, have grown to look upon the public school as the only instrument of public education.

At present the public free lending library is beginning to engage the attention of educators, but not of so large a number of public school men as we wish it might.

Where the public library has fairly won a place as an educational institution it has too frequently been made merely an adjunct of the public school and thereby prevented from doing its largest service. The chief end of the public library as an educational institution is to serve as a continuing, not a finishing school for the people after it has supplemented and vitalized the educational work of the public school. Our grown-ups who have finished the school, or who have been finished by it, do not go freely to the library for help if they have been in any way made to feel that the library is chiefly for the school. On this ground, if no other, the library should not be housed in a public school building. Inferior quarters elsewhere are better. The two institutions should be coördinate and coöperative, yet in the largest sense independent.

The school board that comprehends the nature of its office and the proper bounds of its authority—in short the school board that is a good school board—will never attempt to determine nor control the internal educational policy of the schools. On the contrary, a good school board employs a well-educated, well-trained, competent person as superintendent of schools and places in his hands absolute control of all school interests except the purely business aspect.

The library board that is a correspondingly good library board, whether

it be the same board or not, employs a correspondingly well-equipped person for the headship of the library and gives that person power over the library in all respects equivalent to the power delegated the superintendent over the schools and for precisely the same reasons.

Both librarian and superintendent should know enough of the other's work and plans and theories to be helpful by being willing to coöperate and also enough not to meddle in the other's province. I have no doubt that our notions of extreme subordination of the library to the superintendent of the school have grown out of our immature and inadequate notions of what a librarian should be in qualification. Two decades ago it was the prevailing view that the individual who had been either physically or mentally so unfortunate as to be totally unfit for any other occupation, could, of course, teach school. We have passed by that condition long since with regard to the school, but library work is so new to us and so little understood by the general public that we still believe that any girl who can measure ribbon over a counter at \$3 per week is quite competent to conduct a library at the same price. Instead of it being true that "just anyone" can properly conduct a library, the fact is that a really competent librarian must have larger general information, must have done more reading, must be able to reach a larger number and greater variety of people, must have more tact and skill in dealing with the public, than any one teacher in any system of schools. At last, the librarian, if competent and tactful, is the most powerful factor for better living in the community, the teacher and the preacher not excepted. This power can not often be purchased for \$20 per month.

The individual must go to the library and be dealt with as an individual. Except in large cities, the teacher should not borrow a book for the boy, for what the child gets by merely going to the shelves and selecting a book is not the least of his blessings.

Every school has failed, and by its nature must forever fail, to give the child a broad, general, comprehensive view of any subject studied in the school. The library, in charge of a competent librarian, can supplement all the work of the school. Here we see the fundamental reason why the teacher should never borrow books for the child. Teach him to use the library independently, for if he does not so use it, it can never serve him in any very vital way. Every teacher should be sufficiently familiar with the methods and devices of library economy to enable her to use a library to good advantage.

Before the fullest and most helpful coöperation can exist between the library and the school the teacher must feel the need of the library as a helper in order to do efficient work as a teacher and the librarian must see in the teacher and the school opportunities to make the library a great power for education in the community. Neither can serve nor receive service until each becomes acquainted with the workings and possibilities of the other, and this acquaintance does not even suggest that the librarian know how to teach a school nor that the teacher know how to conduct a library, but it does suggest that each shall be in most hearty sympathy with the work of the other and be intelligent regarding it.

W. E. HENRY,

State librarian of Indiana.

#### Reading for June

Theme—Relations of libraries and schools.

In selecting the following readings for the month, I have included the most valuable articles that have appeared in PUBLIC LIBRARIES and the *Library journal* for several years. I have not included every item of value, but those that especially emphasize the various points well worthy of consideration. I have ventured brief annotations, believing that some who would not be able to read all that is cited may be able to select those articles most vital to their own conditions.

#### PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Vol. 1, p. 89. Schools and libraries. (Encouraging pupils to go to the library.)

Vol. 2, p. 12. Coöperation between librarian and teacher.

Vol. 2, p. 16. Use of libraries by school children. (Vitalizing school work by means of general reading.)

Vol. 2, p. 423. Public school and public library. (Librarian not to help school to the neglect of other educational forces.)

Vol. 3, p. 164. How can and should the library assist the school. (Detail of how several libraries directly aid their respective schools.)

Vol. 4, p. 137. Public libraries and public schools. (Brief statements of the essential features of the two institutions.)

Vol. 5, p. 9. School and library. (Specific method as used in Cedar Rapids library.)

Vol. 6, p. 9. How to interest schools in the library.

Vol. 6, p. 534. Coöperation between schools and libraries. (Library should deal directly with teacher. Children obtain books under teacher's recommendation.)

Vol. 7, p. 99. Coöperation between libraries and schools. (Reports from the libraries of 11 of the larger cities.)

Vol. 7, p. 114. Libraries and schools. (Teachers should be trained in library methods.)

Vol. 7, p. 224. How shall the public libraries help the high school? (Especially emphasizing the qualifications of a librarian.)

Vol. 8, p. 85. The training of the teacher in library work.

Vol. 8, p. 99. Relation of superintendent of schools to the library. (Public library not a department of the public school.)

Vol. 8, p. 104. How we use the library. (Experience of Concord (N. H.) high school.)

Vol. 9, p. 225. Coöperation of public library and public school. (Actual work at Brantford, Ontario.)

#### *Library journal:*

The April number of each year, beginning with 1895, is especially a school number. Out of a great amount of valuable material the following articles are deemed of especial value:

Vol. 29, p. 169. The public library and the public school. (The two should coöperate, that the children may use the library after school days are past.)

Vol. 29, p. 173. Can the public library and the public school be mutually helpful?

Vol. 31, p. 155. Methods of school circulation of library books.

N. E. A. report of committee on the relations of public libraries to public schools. 1899.

(This is perhaps the most comprehensive single publication on the relation of the two institutions. Probably the majority of the older libraries are already supplied with it, but any library not supplied may receive a copy by addressing the Indiana state library and enclosing 4 cents in postage.)



### A National Library for the Blind

Asa Don Dickinson, Bay Ridge branch library,  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

There are about 80,000 blind people in this country. Those who know them best say that what they need most is occupation to keep their necessarily isolated minds from unwholesome introspection and consequent warping and morbidness. A fortunate few among this great army have learned to do something or to make something toward their own support. A considerable number have been taught to read in their younger days and this accomplishment is a great boon so long as access to fresh material remains to them. But books for the blind are expensive and scarce. And the forms of raised type in which they are printed are many and various. Few public libraries throughout the country care to take up a form of work where much money must be spent to benefit the few blind people of their own immediate field. And supposing that a couple of hundred dollars is found to be spent in this way, what is the result? A score of books (in three score volumes) are bought and the blind inhabitants of the district canvassed; many of them have never been taught to read, or have become blind late in life and have never been taught to read books for the blind. Of those who can read, few are they who can read more than one form of the four kinds of type whose use is pretty equally divided throughout the country. If our score of books are all of one type, they will serve only a part of our scanty blind reading public; if they are of several types, there will be only a half-dozen available to each reader. These will soon be read and in six months' time the dust will be thick upon them and the trustees and the librarian will remember them only when they think of mistakes made and money squandered.

Some good had undoubtedly been done. But at what a cost! There is a much better and more modern way of doing this work, by means of which every dollar expended may do the work

of 10 spent as above. Why not use those potent tools of progress, the uses of which this age is beginning to appreciate, coöperation, combination, organization? The United States government has made them uniquely applicable to this work, for if we gather our books for the blind into one storehouse, preferably near the center of population and on a trunk line of communication we can, by a recent act of Congress, send the individual book through the mail to the individual citizen free of charge and he can return it to us free of charge when he has finished with it. Free delivery of books through the mail has been the dream of librarians for a generation, yet though it has become an accomplished fact as to books for the blind, only slight use has thus far been made of the privilege.

It would be very difficult, almost impossible, to persuade the libraries throughout the country to contribute their quota of books for the blind to the general storehouse until it was known to be a responsible institution with a sound financial backing. It would probably be necessary to gather a large collection and to start the work before other libraries were asked to contribute their collections to our fold.

There is another very important side of library work for the blind which could never be done at long distance by the central national library, although it could give help and counsel in its organization. Those who can not read and who are too old and horny handed to be taught to read must be read to; those who can not read, but are capable of learning, must be taught; the blind of each locality can be tactfully and discreetly (for a sexual and economic problem is here involved) brought into helpful and enjoyable social intercourse with one another. This side of the work, a very important one not to be shirked because unwise marriages have occasionally resulted from bringing young blind people together, must always be done at the local library. But the central institution could give great help in the doing of it.

The following plan of action is proposed for the establishment of such an institution.

- 1 Get the money.
- 2 Give the library a habitation and a name; choosing some place where communication with the whole country is easy, sure, and rapid, and where rents are low, for blind books are bulky.

- 3 Buy and catalog the books, at the same time collecting all possible information about the blind in the country, by means of the Census bureau, etc.

- 4 Advertise as broadly as possible our readiness to send books free to any blind person in the United States, whose address and responsibility are vouched for by a respectable citizen, or, if possible, by the local library. This would enable us at the start to bring the blind person and the local library together.

- 5 Endeavor through the library press, through personal interviews with librarians and trustees, and through the spoken word delivered at the meetings of library clubs and associations and church societies to interest the libraries and church societies of the country in work for the blind and to secure their coöperation.

- 6 Send to every library that is willing to aid in the work a traveling library of a score or two of books for the blind; alphabet sheets, etc.; send names and addresses of the blind of the locality and perhaps addressed notices telling them of the beginning of the work in their town and asking them to call at the library and examine the books; send the librarian a handbook containing suggestions, only suggestions, as to how to organize the work at his library, this work to include advertising in the local press; readings by volunteers in the study room or lecture hall which is now to be found in most library buildings; obtaining of free car tickets from the street railway; securing the aid of Epworth leaguers and Christian endeavorers to act as volunteer guides and readers; and the encouragement of blind readers to act as home teachers of other blind persons of the same sex. (In many cases some church society could be

found to take up the work, the library furnishing only the room, sometimes not even that.) The blind persons should be always encouraged to send directly to the central institution for their books, the local organization supplying them with our catalogs and with reading aloud and with home reading and teaching, and, last but not least the vital element of personal contact and sympathy.

- 7 Gather and arrange all possible information about the blind in the United States. This would help us to accomplish our next object.

- 8 Study of the different systems of raised print with a view toward ascertaining which one of the existing systems is the best, eliminating the others, and improving the one selected if this be possible or desirable.

- 9 Collection of all library books for the blind in one place by encouraging libraries to turn over their collections to us.

- 10 Helping the blind to help themselves and furnishing them with a new occupation and means of livelihood, by employing them to transcribe more books into raised print. They are comparatively few as yet.

There would seem to be a great need for a national institution founded on purpose to undertake the work outlined above. How and by whom shall it be established? Could the scope of the existing American printing house for the blind be enlarged to include this work? Could the Library of congress so enlarge the scope of its existing department for the blind as to make it a national library for the blind? Or should an effort be made to interest some philanthropist in the plan?

In a recent address Mr Carnegie is quoted by the Ottawa (Canada) *Free press* with saying:

My library secretary informs me that we have already given the Dominion 60 library buildings. I hope this number is to be rapidly increased. In the United States we have given 904, and the dear old home land has accepted 481.

### Report on Library Visiting

One of the committee appointed to hold library institutes in Illinois found it almost impossible and altogether impracticable to do so and instead made personal visits to small libraries in her district upon which she submits the following report. Aside from the helpfulness of the report as to what is needed in the district, the form of the report is one that is commendable as showing clearly essentials in knowledge of conditions before any attempt at help is made. Names and dates have been changed.

#### Blankville, Ill. Visited by D. J. M.

May 3, 1904

- Board.** John Smith, Pres. Meets monthly.  
**Librarian.** Miss Mary Hall. About 43 years old. Attended Mrs Jones' institute and said that she would attend another and also the state meeting. She is pleasant to meet. Salary \$20.  
**Library.** \$10,000 Carnegie building. City gives them \$750, and they have lawn parties to raise the remainder of the \$1000. Open afternoon and evening and Sunday afternoon. Have 2000v. Librarian said that the circulation averaged 1000 a month. This was counting the periodicals which they circulate. Selection of books is poor and editions cheap. Books are classified according to D. C. but arranged on the shelves as the authors are arranged in their printed catalog. Looks untidy. Author and title list on cards. No magazines bound. Loan all back numbers of magazines.

#### Perrysberg, Ill. Visited by D. J. M.

May 11, 1904

- Board.** Meets twice a year.  
**Librarian.** Miss Smith. About 45 years old. Very agreeable. Doubtful as to whether she could attend institute or state meeting. Makes no report to board. Keeps no record of circulation, but thought it would be interesting and wished she had done it this past winter. Shall send her a statistics blank.  
**Library.** Mr Carnegie has given them \$7500 and a citizen has donated the lot. At present they are on the second floor of a store building. No systematic arrangement of books. Have author and title list on cards in trays but they have no cabinet. Magazines are loaned. They have started to bind magazines.

#### Centerton, Ill. Visited by D. J. M.

May 12, 1904

- Board.** Dr Waters, Pres. Meets about two times a year.  
**Librarian.** Miss Gray. About 45 years old. Has been librarian for 16 years and receives \$10 a month. Feels that she cannot attend either institute or state meeting.  
**Library.** Is on second floor of a store building. Income \$350 a year. Open afternoon and evening. Room untidy. 3180v. Subscribed to Tabard Inn library, thus taking all their book money for five years. Books arranged in no systematic way. Librarian says that she knows where they are and that the next librarian can arrange them as she likes. About 600 readers and an average circulation a month of 300.

### A Library Paste

#### EDITOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I have been making some investigations into the paste question, and it may be of interest to you to learn the results. This is a small town, with no binderies to get binders' paste from, and we have been using the expensive prepared library pastes. In looking for something cheaper, I came across a paste powder, or dry paste, to be mixed with cold water. It is then at once ready for use. I kept some mixed up for three weeks, and observed no change, except that it had thinned slightly. Its adhesive powers seem equal to those of other pastes. The name of the preparation is Jellitac. It is made by Arthur Hoyt. I can not give you his address, but most large jobbing houses handle the powder. What I had came from Uhl Bros., San Francisco. It costs 10 cents a pound. Paper hangers estimate it takes 15 to 20 cents' worth to hang the paper for a room. It is used extensively by orange packers here, and is considered satisfactory. It seems to me a good, inexpensive and convenient paste. I shall be glad to hear from others who have used it, or from any one who has something better in mind.

Very truly yours,  
 Pomona, Cal. S. M. JACOBUS.



### Some Wishes About Books

It is seldom indeed that a book is turned out nowadays so rarely beautiful as to call forth the singing of little choruses of praise, such as the successful illuminator's brother monks sang around the poet's missal of the thirteenth century. The most that can be said now is that a book is a sample of the modern bookmaker's best art—with emphasis on the modern. One is almost tempted—we say almost—at times to wish inventive genius had not progressed quite so far in book making—that it had been content with the slow-running hand-press; that the greedy paper manufacturers had failed to discover that wood might be used as a substitute for rags; that the ink manufacturers had not been compelled gradually to dilute their product until it now lacks the brilliant and lasting qualities which makes the old Mazarine bible still a miracle of book making, not only for its type and qualities of paper, but for the sparkling blackness of its ink. One is also almost tempted at times, when viewing the motley array of books flaunting themselves on our library shelves, to wish that, barring the return to the days when book making was an art, and not a trade, American publishers would more often follow the custom of the French and English publishers, and send out their books, on trial as it were, in paper covers. If the book is worthy of dress, the owner could then clothe it according to its rank. This would of course be little short of cruel to the young author who delights to see his first child sent out into the world gaily, if not richly, clothed. But it would make it easier to destroy the books which have no right to live. All will testify to the difficulty, almost impossibility, of destroying a volume bound in a manner which should make it immortal. If, to the contrary, the books were printed on good paper, with wide margins, in good clear type, they would then be ready, if found worthy, to be sent to the binder, who, after the manner of the old bibliopagist, would trim the margins, even the sheets, and clothe

them to suit the taste and pocketbook of the owner.—*Extract from address by Mrs Allan Dawson, Des Moines.*

### Book Surgery in Libraries\*

Most of these disabled books come down for new backs. Many of them are very heavy. The strain comes at the joint, and with long standing the leather weakens there. The back also is the only portion of the book which is directly exposed to the sunlight, and some chemical action of the latter weakens the leather. In all other respects rooms which are healthy for humans are also healthy for books, and vice versa. An inquiry was made in England a while ago as to why books of the same grade do not last as long now as formerly. It was decided that modern conditions, including gas, steam heat, smoking and so on, are unhealthy for books, just as they are for people. But modern leather also is not so good as that which the old binders were able to get. The best skins come from the Orient, where labor is cheap, and they take weeks to prepare a skin. Cape and Levant morocco are used at the Astor. Pigskin is equally good, but, being much harder, requires more time to manipulate, and is consequently more expensive.

After the new back is on it must be relettered, as much like the old back as possible so as not to puzzle those who look for it on the shelves. The binder first brushes the back where the title goes with a little egg. On this she claps a strip of gold leaf, which adheres lightly. In her pallet, a short instrument with a handle, she has inserted the letters she wants, like bits of type. There are nine different alphabets in her type font for different styles of lettering. She heats the type in her pallet on a little electric stove and stamps the name on the gold leaf. The heat melts the gold and egg into the leather, where it will stick forever, and one motion of the hand clears away the superfluous gold leaf, a quicker process than that of the old fellows, who laboriously traced each letter separately.

\*Extract from New York Times on Book surgery in New York libraries.

Some curious-looking titles come down. When the old binders found the back of the book too narrow for the name they wished to put on it they would calmly drop the final letter or even three or four letters. A German binding is immediately revealed by the position of the title, half way down the back. The Germans also used a certain sheet of paper of a size which folded into a comically fat, stubby little book, as thick and wide as it is long, and announcing its German make instantly. France and England also differ in the size of the sheet used and the consequent shape of the book and in various other small details, so that the experienced binder can estimate the period and nationality of a book at a glance.

In America binders of all three nations have perpetuated their traditions and American publishers are bound to none of them. Modern American students of the art, however, are divided mainly between Cobden Sanderson's studio in London and the workrooms of Paris.

Bookbinders, said the book surgeon of the Astor, who learned her trade in Paris, bookbinders are the most conservative and opinionated people in the world and the worst to quarrel. Every bookbinder has his own way of doing things and quarrels about it with every other bookbinder. They put bits of parchment over the corners of the cover to protect them. Some of them paste the paper clear over the corner. Some cut it off just a little bit so as to show the parchment beneath, and some cut it off just a little more. And they quarrel about that.

Why are all the most famous bookbinders men? Well, all the famous men bookbinders have been at it 20 years or more. An American girl commonly wants to learn the trade and distinguish herself in six months. When women accept the fact that "art is long" and that to accomplish anything worth while they've got to give up their lives to it, the way men do, they will get the same results.

### The Decay of Leather Bindings.\*

It is a source of satisfaction to be able to speak a good word for a leather which is now used extensively for many purposes, and that is American cowhide. This is far superior in durability to any genuine Russia leather ever imported into this country. We have used the russet, or tan cowhide, for half-bound books, especially thick ones, for many years, and find it much superior to sheep, both in appearance and durability; even in the form of skiver, or buffing, it is very durable. As evidence in favor of American cowhide we will mention that we have a complete set of the Congressional *Globe*, afterwards called the *Record*. They are in the original binding, done in the government bindery at Washington, D. C. Bound half red Russia (genuine), from 1847 to 1878. In 1879 they appear to have commenced to use American cowhide. There is a marked difference in condition between the two kinds of leather, and very much in favor of the American article. The Russia is badly decayed; the face of the leather can be scraped off with the finger nail as fine as dust, while the American leather is still good in texture, but faded in color, probably by exposure to direct sunlight.

The causes of decay of leather in libraries may be summed up as follows: The fumes of burnt gas; insufficient ventilation, especially in rooms that are much used; the fumes of tobacco smoke, of which ammonia is one of the active ingredients; dust of all kinds; direct sunlight (probably from the changes of temperature involved); dampness and excessive dry heat. But of all these influences gas fumes—no doubt because of the sulphuric and sulphurous acid which they contain—are the most injurious. In libraries where no artificial light is used, and where the ventilation is good, the bindings will be found in a better condition than elsewhere. Books kept on shelves, with glass or other close fitting doors, will also be found in a bet-

\*Extract from a series of articles on Bookbinding by Henry Marsden, bookbinder of San Francisco law library.

ter condition than those exposed directly to the atmosphere, excepting where unusual conditions prevail, such as damp on the one hand, or excessive dryness on the other; the absence of ventilation in well-made, close-fitting cases may be a positive evil. The importance of thorough ventilation and a moderate temperature can not be too strongly insisted on.

### Library Guides\*

There are five kinds of library guides—members of the staff, the arrangement of the library, indexes, signs and printed matter. There are two kinds of users of the library—those who wish to ask a person for the information or books wanted and those who wish to find their information or books themselves, without personal assistance. All blends of these two kinds of users exist, but in the extremes there are but these two kinds. If the library serves satisfactorily these two extremes it surely serves all the needs between.

To test the library by the two extremes, I chose two members of the public whose use of libraries I knew to be in these ways. One of these gentlemen uses the library for reference purposes. He wants his needed information for definite use at once. He does not want to learn how to find it himself, nor does he wish to be confined to any one department because the member of the staff he approaches belongs in one department. His suggestion is:

If you can find enough work to keep them busy at other times, the best help you can give the public is to add plenty of intelligent members to your staff. They are of more value than books. Money spent in salaries of assistants who know books, and know the library, will give greater return to the public than that same money spent in books. He adds:

Pay a compliment to the intelligence of your borrowers. Study the psychol-

ogy of advertising. Let your signs be delicately suggestive, not word statements. Make the reference room evident without a sign.

The second gentleman seldom uses the library for reference. He is a reader in Stevenson's understanding of the word. He likes to select for himself, to receive no suggestions or assistance from any one, yet to be able to find the special book he wants. His suggestion is:

Post your scheme of classification, then give necessary signs to enable a person to find the desired book by it. So arrange your library that persons find it easier to do the thing they should do than to do anything else.

This arrangement would fall in with the suggestion already given on the psychology of advertising.

### Books on Electricity

The Dubuque (Ia.) public demand especially books on electrical engineering, steam launches, automobiles, etc., and the following list has been made up by the librarian:

- Age of electricity.
- Allsop. Electric bell construction.
- Aryton. Practical electricity.
- Atkinson. Electricity for everybody; its nature and uses explained.
- Brackett. Electricity in daily life.
- Caillard. Electricity.
- Clarke. A, B, C, of electrical experiments.
- Doubleday. How Guglielmo Marconi telegraphs without wires. (See his *Stories of inventors*, p. 1-26.)
- Doubleday. Long distance telephony. (See his *Stories of inventors*, p. 181-198.)
- Houston & Kennelly. Alternating electric currents.
- Houston & Kennelly. The electric telephone.
- Iles. Invention and discovery.
- Jackson & Jackson. Elementary book of electricity and magnetism and their applications.
- Lodge. Modern views of electricity.
- Mendenhall. Century of electricity.
- Pope. Evolution of the electric incandescent lamp.
- Prescott. History, theory and practice of the electric telegraph.
- Rosenberg. Electrical engineering.
- Sloane. Electric toy making for amateurs.
- Thomson. Electricity and matter.
- Turner. The insulation of electric machines.
- Urquhart. Electric light.
- Walmsley. Electric current.

\*Address of Frances L. Rathbone, librarian of the East Orange public library, before the New Jersey library association and the Pennsylvania library club, at Atlantic City, March 10. Other extracts will be given later.

### How to Catalog a Small Library

W. R. Eastman, state inspector of libraries,  
Albany, N. Y.

The following order of treatment is suggested:

- 1 Arrange books.
- 2 Mark books to preserve order.
- 3 Write cards for each book.
- 4 Arrange cards.

1 Arrange books in groups or classes according to subject. In each group arrange books in alphabetical order of names; usually the surname of the author, but in individual biography the surname of the subject as more important.

For public documents the country, state or city department issuing the document is the author, as U. S.—Agriculture, dept. of.

2 Mark each book with the subject number of its group. The following numbers which conform to the decimal classification are suggested.

General works, 0; Philosophy and ethics, 1; Religion, 2; Sociology 3; Education, 3.7; Language, 4; Natural science, 5; Useful arts, 6; Fine arts, 7; Literature (not fiction), 8; Travel, 9.1; Biography, 9.2; Ancient history, 9.3; European history, 9.4; Asian history, 9.5; African history, 9.6; North American and United States history, 9.7; South American history, 9.8; Fiction, no number.

Travel may be divided by countries by adding a second decimal, using the same figures as in history; thus 9.14 is for travel in Europe. Science may also be divided by using decimals. The A. L. A. catalog of 1904 will be extremely helpful in following the tables of decimal classification. As soon as the system of classification becomes familiar it will be desirable to use more figures in marking.

The name may be written beneath the class mark, or abbreviated by using the initial, or by using the initial with figures following as taken from an alphabetic order table.

The class and name marks together constitute the "call number" which

should be plainly written on bookplate or title-page, on label and on upper left corner of all catalog cards of that book. For attaching labels see Stearns' Essentials, p. 42-43.

3 Write at least two cards for each book. Use ruled cards and ink that will not fade.

One card with author's name (surname first) on top line; title below.

For books not fiction, one card with subject on top line (see A. L. A. catalog for samples of subject headings), author's name below and title on third line.

In fiction and in case of any striking title write a card with title on top line and author's name below. Fiction needs no subject card.

If a book treats of more than one subject of importance, write a subject card for each.

4 Arrange all cards in one alphabetic series by the first word (not an article) on the top line. Or,

Arrange author and title cards in one alphabet and subject cards in a separate numerical arrangement according to the call number.

In the latter arrangement, the order of subject cards will correspond to the order of books on the shelves, and will serve for a shelf-list.

When this arrangement is followed, it will not be necessary to write the subject on the top line of the card, as the class number is a sufficient indication.

Cards can be copied for printing when desired, but for purposes of the library the card catalog is much more satisfactory and will not require rewriting. Keep cards upright on edge in boxes, trays or drawers for ready consultation.

A. L. A. catalog of 1904 may be obtained from Superintendent of documents, Washington, D. C. 25 cents paper; 50 cents cloth.

Stearns' Essentials in library administration. A. L. A. Publishing board, 10½ Beacon st., Boston, Mass. 15 cents.

Cutter's Alphabetic order table. Library Bureau, \$1.25. Only one or two figures will be needed in small libraries.

## Nature Study and the Small Libraries

J. Christian Bay, chief classifier, The John Crerar library, Chicago

Over-production of books and the accumulation of superfluous material is as conspicuous in the field of nature study as in nearly all other branches of literary effort. To make a selection of the best books on nature study, adequate in point of quality as well as financially to the needs of the average library community, becomes more and more a matter of difficulty. Most public libraries are apt to accumulate text-books and quasi-popular treatises to the exclusion of good general books on special topics, and perhaps in natural history more than in any other field, since the valuable books are comparatively few in number, and natural history is commonly considered a specialty.

Nature study, as a pedagogical method, and as a means of popularizing biological knowledge, is essentially an American departure. It has grown rapidly in official and popular favor, and one interesting fact in its development is that the very best and most characteristic of its literature is distributed gratis. As I have met again and again persons engaged in library work, yet who had somehow remained ignorant of the publications quoted in this note, there seems to be room for the list I propose to give.

This list, in spite of commercial publishing ventures, represents the best American nature study collection that most libraries of average size can hope to possess for some years to come. The various Cornell university series, with more than 1150 pages and many hundred illustrations, the Hampton institute leaflets, the Pennsylvania and New Hampshire bulletins, form, together with a few special articles, a collection which, if obtained, might reduce purchases in this line to a minimum.

Everything mentioned in this list is distributed gratuitously—a quality which, considered in connection with the excellence of the publications, is worthy of consideration. It can not be said how far applications en masse for

complete sets will be honored, but it is easy to foresee that this material will before long go out of print and become scarce.

**I Cornell university.** College of agriculture.—*Ithaca, N. Y.*

1 Teacher's leaflet on nature study.

No. 1-13, 1898-1899 [No. 14-21 in Cornell nature study quarterly No. 1-8.] Paged continuously: 1-162. Illus.

*Continued as*

Cornell nature study quarterly.

No. 1-9, 1899-1901. No more issued.

Paged continuously: 1-216. Illus. No. 1 has title: Cornell nature study bulletin; all have *sub-title*: Teacher's leaflet (No. 14-21).

**Contents:**

- 1 Bailey, L. H. How a squash plant gets out of the seed.
- 2 Cavanaugh, G. W. How a candle burns.
- 3 Bailey, L. H. Four apple twigs.
- 4 Bailey, L. H. A children's garden.
- 5 Comstock, Anna B. Some tentmakers.
- 6 Bailey, L. H. What is nature study?
- 7 Comstock, Anna B. Hints on making collections of insects.
- 8 Wyman, A. P. The leaves and acorns of our common oaks.
- 9 Gage, S. H. The life history of the toad.
- 10 Bailey, L. H. The birds and I.
- 11 Rogers, Mary F. Life in an aquarium.
- 12 I. Bailey, L. H. How the trees look in winter. II. Furlong, C. H. One way of drawing trees in their winter aspects.
- 13 Gould, H. P. Evergreens, and how they shed their leaves. [*In* Cornell nature study quarterly.]
- 14 Tarr, R. S. A summer shower.
- 15 A handful of soil: Part I. What it is, by R. S. Tarr; Part II. What it does, by L. A. Clinton.
- 16 Bailey, L. H. Cuttings and cuttings.
- 17 The burst of spring: I. The opening of the buds, by L. H. Bailey. II. The early birds, by L. A. Fuertes. III. The opening of a cocoon, by Mary R. Miller.
- 18 A book: I. The book and its work, by J. O. Martin. II. Insect life of a book, by Mary K. Miller.
- 19 Bailey, L. H. How plants live together.
- 20 Roberts, I. P. A hill of potatoes.
- 21 Reed, H. D. A study of fishes.
- 22 Comstock, J. H. Spiders.

2 Cornell reading course for farmers.

No. 1-30, 1900-1906. *Continued.* Paged continuously: 1-608; 341 illus. Divided into five series, each containing five numbers. Published monthly.

**Contents:**

- |           |      |        |                         |
|-----------|------|--------|-------------------------|
| Series I. | Nos. | 1-5.   | The soil and the plant. |
| " II.     | "    | 6-10.  | Stock feeding.          |
| " III.    | "    | 11-15. | Orcharding.             |
| " IV.     | "    | 16-20. | Poultry.                |
| " V.      | "    | 21-25. | Dairying.               |
| " VI.     | "    | 26-30. | Buildings and yards.    |

3 Farmers wives' reading course.

No. 1-15, 1902-1905. *Continued.* Paged continuously: 1-292. 135 illus. Divided into three series, each containing five numbers. Martha van Ransselaer, supervisor.

**Contents:**

- Series I. No. 1-5. Farmhouse and garden. No. 1. Saving steps. No. 2. Decoration in the farm home. No. 3. Practical housekeeping. No. 4. The kitchen garden, by J. Craig. No. 5. Flowers and the flower garden.
- Series II. No. 6-10. The farm family. No. 6: The rural school and the farm home. No. 7: Boys and girls on the farm. No. 8: Reading in the farm home. No. 9: Farm home industries. No. 10: In-



- sect pests of house and garden, by M. V. Slingerland.
- Series III. Sanitation and food. No. 11: Suggestions on home sanitation. No. 12: Germ life on the farm. No. 13: Brief discussion of human nutrition. No. 14: Food for the farmer's family. No. 15: Saving strength.

Most of the issues in these three publications are accompanied by quizzes and discussion papers.

A selection of the most important of the above named issues were published in one volume:

- Cornell nature study leaflets. 1896-1904.  
(State of New York. Department of agriculture. Nature study bulletin No. 1.)  
Albany, 1904. 607 p., 382 illus.

*Side-lights:*

- Cornell university. Agricultural experiment station. Bulletin 160: Bailey, L. H. Hints on rural school grounds. Bulletin 174: Bailey, L. H. The problem of impoverished lands.

- U. S. Department of agriculture. Office of experiment stations. Bulletin 72: Bailey, L. H. Farmers' reading courses. Washington, 1899. 36 p. Bulletin 160. Galoway, B. T. School gardens. Washington, 1905. 47 p., plates, illus.

- U. S. Department of agriculture. Farmers' bulletin No. 218. Corbett, L. C. The school garden. Washington, 1905. 40 p., illus.

**II Hampton institute nature study bureau.—Hampton, Va.**

- 1 Teacher's leaflets. [First series].  
No. 1-17. 1901-1904. New series, No. 1-12 (issued monthly), 1905. *Continued.* Each number has separate pagination.

*Contents* [First series]:

- 1 Davis, J. E. Nature study. 2 p.
- 2 Blanchan, Neltje [pseud.]. How seeds travel. 11 p., illus.
- 3 Gowans, Ethel B. Evergreen trees. 9 p., illus.
- 4 Goodrich, C. L. Seed planting. 13 p., illus.
- 5 Life history of a butterfly. 11 p., illus.
- 6 Goodrich, C. L. Roots. 8 p., illus.
- 7 Brown, Sarah W. Beautifying school houses and yards. 18 p., illus.
- 8 Rogers, Julia E. Winter buds. 10 p., illus.
- 9 Goodrich, C. L. Soils. 19 p., illus.
- 10 Jayne, A. The meaning of the flower. 13 p., illus.
- 11 Goodrich, C. L. Plowing. 12 p., illus.
- 12 Goodrich, C. L. Harrowing. 7 p., illus.
- 13 Looley, Rossa B. Arbor-day suggestions. 27 p., illus.
- 14 Comstock, Anna B. The winged pollen-carriers. 15 p., illus.
- 15 Pierce, J. B. School gardening. 11 p., illus.
- 16 Goding, Anna M., and Breen, Mary C. Outline of course in nature study. 27 p.
- 17 Walter, Sarah J. Simple experiments in physics. Water. 7 p.

*New series:*

- 1 Walter, Sarah J. Simple experiments in physics. Heat. 8 p.
- 2 Sweetser, W. S. Breeds, care and management of sheep. 13 p.
- 3 Hosford, G. W. Notes on transplanting. 7 p., illus.
- 4 Davis, J. E. Some birds useful to the southern farmer. 12 p., illus.
- 5 Sweetser, W. S. Selection and care of dairy cattle. 16 p., illus.
- 6 Care and management of horses. 16 p., illus.
- 7 Rogers, Julia E. How to know the trees by their bark. 13 p., illus.

- 8 Sweetser, W. S. Milk and butter. 14 p., illus.
- 9 Goodrich, C. L. Notes on commercial fertilizers. 11 p.
- 10 Sweetser, W. S. Breeds, care and management of swine. 10 p.
- 11 Rogers, Julia E. The fruits of trees. 9 p.
- 12 Walter, Sarah J. December suggestions. 9 p.
- 2 Children's nature study leaflet.  
No. 1-3. 1904. Each number has separate pagination.

*Contents:*

- 1 Herron, Emily K. A child's garden. 10 p., illus.
- 2 Blanchan, Neltje [pseud.]. How to make friends with the birds. 12 p., illus.
- 3 Rogers, Julia E. How to know the trees by their bark. 13 p., illus.
- 3 Hampton agriculture leaflets.  
No. 1-9. 1902-1903. Each number has separate pagination.

*Contents:*

- 1 Goodrich, C. L. Notes on plants. 13 p.
- 2 Goodrich, C. L. Notes on soil. 17 p.
- 3 Goodrich, C. L. Notes on farm manures. 15 p.
- 4 Sweetser, W. S. Hints on the care of poultry. 11 p., illus.
- 5 Goodrich, C. L. Notes on plows and plowing. 15 p.
- 6 Goodrich, C. L. Notes on seed planting. 10 p.
- 7 Goodrich, C. L. Notes on soil moisture. 10 p.
- 8 Goodrich, C. L. Notes on the rotation of crops. 7 p.
- 9 Goodrich, C. L. Notes on drainage. 7 p.
- 4 Hampton animal industry leaflets.  
Six numbers projected. In preparation.

**III Pennsylvania. Department of agriculture.—Harrisburg, Pa.**

*Bulletins:*

- No. 62 Dock, Myra L. A summer's work abroad, in school grounds, home grounds, play grounds, parks and forests. 1900. 33 p., illus.
- No. 63 Miller, Louise. A course in nature study for use in the public schools. 1900. 117 p.

**IV Rhode Island. College of agriculture.—Kingston, R. I.**

*The nature guard.*

- No. 1-44 ?—November, 1905. Paged continuously. 1-188, illus.

*Partial contents:*

- 2 Field, G. W. Our winter birds. p. [5]-[12.]
- 3 Card, F. W. The biography of an apple tree. p. 13-16.
- 4 Wheeler, H. J. First chat about soils. p. 17-20.
- 5 Card, F. W. How to graft. p. 21-24.
- 7 Card, F. W. Two enemies of the apple tree. p. 28-32.
- 8 Wheeler, H. J. Two minerals that help to make soils. p. 33-36.
- 10 Brigham, A. A. In and out of an egg. p. 41-45.
- 11 Card, F. W. The bare brown woods. p. 45-49.
- 12 Wheeler, H. J. Other minerals that help to make soil. p. 49-52.
- 13 Card, F. W. Our winter ferns. p. 53-57.
- 22 Card, F. W. How nature prunes trees. p. 89-93.
- 29 Stene, A. E. Tree buds. p. 117-120.
- 30 Card, F. W. School gardens. p. 121-124, illus.
- 31 Hutchins, J. W. A talk about weeds. p. 125-129.
- 32 Hutchins, J. W. From seed to plant. p. 129-132.
- 33 Barlow, J. Tracks in the snow. p. 133-136, illus.
- 36 Stene, A. E. Seed travelers. p. 145-149, illus.
- 37 Barlow, J. Insects in winter. p. 149-152, illus.
- 39 Stene, A. E. Evergreens. p. 157-164, illus.
- 41 Card, F. W. Flower growing. p. 165-172, illus.
- 42 Stene, A. E. The gypsy moth. p. 173-176, illus.
- 43 Stene, A. E. Galls and gallmakers. p. 175-179, illus.
- 44 Card, F. W. The cabbage family. p. 181-188, illus.

**V Ohio State university. Agricultural college.—Columbus, Ohio.**

*Extension bulletin:*

- No. 1-8. October, 1905—March, 1906. *Continued.*

Mostly agricultural subjects.

## Shakespeare in Public Libraries

The April number of *The library* contains several articles all devoted to Shakespeare, among which special attention may be called to that by John Ballinger on Shakespeare in the municipal libraries. The author gives a short summary of what British libraries have done to promote the reading and studying of Shakespeare's plays. The Shakespeare collection in the Reference library of Birmingham is, of course, the most important, containing not less than 12,000v., but other libraries have not inconsiderable collections even though falling far short of this, such as the Free library of Cambridge with over 1000v., the Public library of Birkenhead with about 800v., Liverpool and Manchester with about 700v. each, etc. The Public library of Lambeth is the owner of a collection of about 500v. on Bacon and the Bacon-Shakespeare myth, a gift from a believer in that curious fallacy; this collection is at any rate of value for students of Bacon. Mr Ballinger suggests that any library can at small expense "print and circulate amongst its readers a slip containing a list of the texts, commentaries, biographies and other works available, and, perhaps, a brief note on the pleasure and profit to be derived from the study of Shakespeare. If some well-known Shakespearean scholar could be persuaded to write a suitable note introducing the subject, it would meet with general acceptance." The article is accompanied by a list of upwards of 40 works that should find a place in every public library. The titles are grouped under the headings Works, Poems, Biographies, Commentaries and criticism, Miscellaneous and a supplementary list of 14 books that also might be purchased, if possible. Dr H. H. Furness' Variorum edition is nearly the only American work that is included. It would seem that Prof. Barrett Mendell's volume and the late Richard Grant White's Studies in Shakespeare might well have been included, even in a rather small collection.

A. G. S. J.

## Book Buying

Bulletin of A. L. A. committee on book buying  
No. 24

- Secondhand and special catalogs:  
 Gilhofer & Ranschburg, Bognerstrasse 2, Wien-Austria.  
 Ernst Frensdorff, Koniggratser Strasse 44, Berlin, S. W. 11, Germany.  
 Friedrich Meyer, Teubnerstrasse 16, Leipzig, Germany.  
 Henry Sotheran & Co., 37 Piccadilly W., London.  
 Thomas J. Taylor, Taunton, Mass.  
 List & Francke, 2 Talstrasse, Leipzig, Germany.  
 Gustav Fock, Schlossgasse 7, Leipzig, Germany.  
 Malkan's Bulletin, Vol 2, No. 3, 18 Broadway, New York city.  
 Bull & Auvache, 34 Hart st., Bloomsbury, London, W. C.  
 Association Book Co., 4 W. 40th st., New York city.  
 Vuida de Rico, 1 Travesia del Arenal, Madrid, Spain.  
 Joseph Baer & Co, Hochstrasse 6, Frankfurt on Main, Germany.  
 Shepard Book Co., Salt Lake City.  
 Otto Schultz, Edinburgh, Scotland.  
 Rossberg'schen Buchhandlung, Universitätsstrasse 15, Leipzig.  
 Noah Farnham Morrison, 314 West Jersey st., Elizabeth, N. J.  
 Burrows Bros. Co., Cleveland, Ohio.  
 H. A. O'Leary, 1597 Brooklyn av., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Kimball Bros., 618 Broadway, Albany, N. Y.  
 Union library association (remainders), 44 E. 23d st., New York.  
 Henry Gray Goldsmith's estate, East Action, London, W. England.  
 Frank Hollings, 7 Great Turnstile, Holborn, London, England.  
 K. W. Hiersemann, Königsstrasse 3, Leipzig, Germany.  
 Anderson Auction Co., 5 W. 29th st., New York city.  
 H. Malkan, 18 Broadway, New York city.  
 N. J. Bartlett & Co., 28 Cornhill, Boston, Mass.  
 William Brown, 26 Prince's st., Edinburgh, Scotland.  
 Everett's Book Store, 117 E. 23d st., New York city.  
 Henry Sotheran & Co., 37 Piccadilly W., London, England.  
 James McKenzie, 238 Buchanan st., Glasgow, Scotland.  
 J. B. Mulot, 71 Rue St Jacques, Paris, France.  
 Francis Edwards, 83 High st., Marylebone W., London, England.  
 H. H. Peach, 37 Belvoir st., Leicester, England.  
 Albert Britnell, 241 Yonge st., Toronto, No. 65 March, 1906.  
 John Wheldon & Co. (gardening), No. 33, 38 Great Queen st., London, W. C.

McEvard Co., 114 Liberty st., New York city. (Electro-chemistry.)

John Wanamaker, New York city. (Special bargains.) March, 1906.

Lists of books helpful in purchasing books for small libraries:

1 List of books for township libraries in the state of Wisconsin issued by the state superintendent, Madison.

2 Graded and annotated list of the 500 books in the school libraries of the Evanston (Ill.) free public library.

3 Public school libraries for all the grades published by the University of Oregon.

4 Worcester (Mass.) free public library finding list of music.

5 Public school libraries of Minnesota, published by the Library commission of Minnesota, St Paul.

6 Approved list of books for rural libraries published by the superintendent of public instruction, Raleigh, N. C.

7 List of books selected by the state superintendent of instruction, Indianapolis, Ind.

8 List of library books for the school district libraries of South Dakota, superintendent of public instruction, Pierre, S. Dak.

9 Course of study, teachers' manual and library list, department of public instruction, Helena, Mont.

10 Approved books for public schools, department of education, Trenton, N. J.

11 School library books, department of education, Atlanta, Ga.

12 Books for school libraries, department of public instruction, Bismarck, N. Dak.

### No. 25

Valuable advice to book buyers is contained in an editorial in the *Publishers' weekly*, April 7, entitled, The secondhand bookseller's sources of supply. As these are, or may be, also the sources of library supply, much of what the writer says, although addressed to dealers in books, should be read and heeded also by those who are forming collections, not for sale, but for free public use. Attention is called to the following paragraphs:

Besides buying books over the counter the dealer in old books must also seek his supplies in the purchase of private libraries and in the auction room. Of these sources, perhaps, the purchase of private libraries during the lifetime of their owners is the most desirable. A collector, as a rule, has a fair knowledge of the value of his collection, and while he may be keen to get the highest possible price for his collection, he is also fully conscious of the uncertainty of the fate of libraries when they are thrown into the market or into the auction room, and may be induced to consider a reasonable offer. In the more frequent cases, when the library is offered for sale by the heirs of a collector, the task of valuing the collection is not likely to be so easy or so pleasant, because in most cases a man's family has either a very exaggerated opinion of the value of his books, or

is quite ignorant of their value, and therefore intent upon getting even more for them than those of the former class. . . .

It need hardly be pointed out that the appraisal of any large collection of books, with or without the aid of bibliographic reference works, depends upon a more or less exact knowledge of books, and almost unfailing memory of values, and, last, but not least, a certain instinct, or scent, that will enable the appraiser, almost at a glance, to differentiate the valuable from the worthless. It will require many years' experience and much study to become proficient in this difficult art, and the novice will no doubt suffer many defeats and losses before he can become expert enough to do justice to himself as well as to those with whom he is dealing. . . .

Buying books at auction is a simpler matter and is attended with less risk than in the purchase of entire libraries. As a rule auction catalogs are published a week or two before the sales take place, so that the bookseller may at his leisure check such books as he may wish to procure either for himself or on commission, and decide upon the prices at which he may profitably buy them. Then, too, several days before the sale he is offered an opportunity to inspect the books themselves, and, when dealing with a responsible auctioneer, is secured against the risk of having defective books foisted upon him if he be prompt in collating them and reporting the defects within the time allowed by the auctioneers—usually 10 days.

About the only objection that may be raised against buying books at auction is the apparent waste of valuable time; yet in many cases the bookseller is well repaid for his personal attendance at a sale or for being represented by a reliable proxy. Bids that are left with the auctioneer, or entrusted to a second or third rate assistant, are inflexible. An unscrupulous or impatient auctioneer may be tempted to start bidding with the maximum bid left with him, and a dummy representative dare not go beyond the prescribed price, even though the advance might be profitable. This can be judged only by the principal or an expert assistant. Then, too, snooping among the lots displayed while an auction sale is going on has often been rewarded in the discovery of an unsuspected treasure. . . . Besides, no undue amount of time need now be taken up at an auction sale, when the dealer lives in or near the city in which the sale takes place, because, as a rule, one may form an approximate idea of the time in which the auctioneer will arrive at certain lots.

Two other sources of supply need only be referred to, . . . the publisher who desires to unload remainders for cash, and the stock of other dealers in old books. The remainder bookseller is an institution in England as in the *Modernes antiquariat* in Germany; but in the United States remainders have thus far found an outlet through sources other than the dealers in old books, because such stock requires for its proper handling and distribution machinery that the



average secondhand bookseller either has not or does not care to control.

The study of his colleague's catalog should always prove interesting and profitable to a dealer in old books, as opportunities are bound to offer themselves to round out and make more valuable certain special collections already in stock, and occasionally to pick up a bargain.

London dispatches to the daily press state that the London *Times*, in connection with its circulating library scheme, is offering for sale 600,000 nearly new books at about 10 per cent of list price. Ask your importer to look into this.

### Interesting Things in Print

Dr Hallier has an interesting article on book indicators in the March-April number of *Blätter für Volksbibliotheken und Lesehallen*.

The Carnegie library at Duquesne, Pa., has issued Special bulletin No. 1, containing books for mill men.

The May *Craftsman* contains several articles of unquestionable national importance. It is, for instance, distinctly important for a nation to know that it is revealing its thought in its architecture, and that as yet American architecture is pretty bad, as Louis Sullivan asserts and proves in his trenchant article, What is architecture?—A study of the American people.

The sixth annual report of Board of library commissioners of Michigan covers in a very complete and interesting way the progress of the library matters in the hands of the board during the past year. The organization of the small library activities as shown in these yearly reports and the continued relations maintained between them is not surpassed if it is equaled by any other state commission.

The April number of Quarterly bulletin of Berkshire athenæum and museum of Pittsfield, Mass., is a young people's number. A very good scheme of reading is given by the librarian, H. H. Ballard.

The New York state library has issued a new circular of information concerning the library school 1906-07, supplementing and revising the handbook for 1903. The changes that have been made in rules and curriculum refer to receiving

students from other library schools and from libraries into the senior class. The circular definitely states that no correspondence course is offered.

The second supplement of List of serials in public libraries of Chicago and Evanston has been issued. The inclusion of three new libraries and very considerable special purchases made by two of those already represented, have increased this second edition to such an extent that it is now larger than the original list and contains nearly as many new titles as were given in that publication. The present edition contains the holdings of 19 libraries of Chicago and Evanston. There are in the supplement entries for some 8460 serials and 1310 references. Of the 8460 entries, 2020 are unaltered from the first edition of the supplement, 2020 are corrected entries from it, 1270 are corrected entries from the original list, and 3150 are new. The original list still contains 3540 entries not reprinted, so that the total number of serials recorded is 12,000.

This work was edited by Clement W. Andrews, A. M., librarian of The John Crerar library. It contains also a bibliography of union lists of serials compiled by Aksel G. S. Josephson of The John Crerar library.

The following is a book review from *Punch*, London:

It was a gentle lady and her name was Alice Brown,  
And she wrote a charming story of a small New England town;  
Her publisher was Constable that enterprising thing,  
But it isn't of her publisher I'm going for to sing.  
She called her story Paradise, and told of simple folk  
Who loved and smiled and suffered and bent to duty's yoke,  
Of Malory and Barbara (who in the end was Nick's);  
And books like these will cost you (net) exactly four-and-six.

The Philadelphia *Record* of May 13 has an attractive "writeup" of the Boys' reading fraternity of Camden, N. J. This is an organization started by Librarian Ketler to discourage the excessive reading of fiction and seems to be growing in effectiveness.

### Library Matters in San Francisco

A letter from Librarian G. T. Clark of San Francisco relative to the condition of the Public library says:

#### What was left

In the main library in the city hall we had 130,000 books. This was a total loss. Two of our six branches were also destroyed. These were the Phelan branch of 4000 books, contained in the \$25,000 building at Fourth and Clara sts., presented to the city by former Mayor James D. Phelan, and the North Beach branch of 5000 books at Powell and Broadway. Two delivery stations, each containing 500 books, were also destroyed. We saved about 3000 books from delivery stations. There were between 25,000 and 30,000 out in the hands of borrowers. Many of these were saved and are now being brought in. Some people who saved only a trunk found a place in it for their library book before leaving their homes to the flames. In all we have saved about 40,000 books out of a total of 160,000.

When our branch collections are brought together we will have a good working library of reference books and also a fine collection of standard literature. We have \$750,000 that Andrew Carnegie gave us, which sum is still intact and is, I believe, now available. We have the block of land, and we have \$1,000,000 of bond money available for a new library building. Our great disaster will result in hurrying the work of construction, and doubtless the building of the new home for San Francisco's books will begin in the near future. Meanwhile the various branches of the library that escaped the fire are open for the return and donation of books.

Another letter from a San Francisco correspondent has this to say:

#### The present outlook

It is indeed gratifying to learn of the active sympathy of so many in the East. I understand that many had San Francisco off the map. It's not so bad as that, but it's pretty serious and only the

wonderful spirit that our people display, from the "leading citizens" down, will pull us out of the hole. But I am confident that out we will come better than ever before. This catastrophe has been a wonderful simplifier of many matters. It has wiped the slate off clean—all the mistakes of the past are gone as well as the good things. It's a new deal all around. But enough. You have undoubtedly heard of the library situation. There is little to be added to the story except that half (perhaps the better half) of the Sutro library is saved and the Bancroft collection. This is the only consolation, for of the main library not a scrap of printed paper remains. It was a completed job. And we use to think that fire could not damage books very much!

The Citizen's committee on reconstruction has a sub-committee on libraries which will take up the question of a temporary main library building. There is about \$100,000 left after the purchase of the site for the new building and this may be available for the above purpose. The insurance money will amount to about \$40,000 (less than at first supposed). This will be used for the purchase of books. The Citizen's committee will also take up the Carnegie matter, although this will have to be pretty delicately handled. There would be no opposition now to the use of this money, for the lion of capital and the lamb of labor are drinking out of the same bucket.

The entire staff of the San Francisco public library, with the exception of librarian and secretary and the attendants at the four surviving branches, have been granted a leave of absence without pay. How long this will be nobody knows. This places some good library workers on the market and I trust that some libraries will be able to avail themselves of their services—Joy Lichtenstein, assistant librarian; Miss Hayward, superintendent of branches; Miss Melrose of the periodical department; Miss Weed of the juvenile department and many others.

Many of the library people were burned

out, but none were injured and all are being taken care of for the time.

No second-class mail comes through, so no magazines or papers from the East are to be had.

A letter to Dr R. G. Thwaites of Madison, Wis., from Mr Bruncken, legislative librarian of California state library, at Sacramento contains the following paragraph:

#### Might have been worse

The blow to the library and historical interests of the Pacific coast has been great, although it might have been worse. We have not yet heard definitely about the Bancroft library, but are told that the fire stopped at Twenty-second and Valencia, within a block of the building. I don't know whether any part of the contents had yet been removed to Berkeley, but at any rate no injury was done to the university buildings across the bay. The San Francisco Public, the Mechanics-Mercantile, and Academy of science libraries are destroyed, as are the two law libraries of the city and the supreme court, and probably the Sutro collection has suffered the same fate. A number of valuable private collections, both law and general, are also destroyed. I am assured that at least a part of the historical collection of the Bohemian club, and of the California pioneers, has been saved. Altogether, it seems to have been the worst destruction of library material in modern times, except the Turin fire.

#### An appeal

The following appeal from Mr Bruncken will also be of interest to librarians and no doubt will meet with a warm response from the craft:

The State library desires to make a special collection of matter relating to the San Francisco fire, and we should receive with great thanks any contribution to it that our library friends may be able to make, in the shape of newspapers or otherwise. We should like particularly to get private letters received in the eastern states, descriptive of the experiences of the writers dur-

ing the catastrophe and the period of confusion following it. Would you be kind enough to let this be known among the library people? If requested, such letters will of course be sealed up for any number of years the donor may request.

#### A practical suggestion

The following suggestion comes in a private letter from a friend of all good causes:

I still continue to receive details of the sad affair in San Francisco. I find that some people who lost all they had in San Francisco but still have valuable libraries in their country houses, are now forced to offer these libraries for sale.

If it could only be arranged that a subscription be started to present San Francisco with books for a new public library, and that such books as these unfortunate people have for sale, in so far as they are suitable for the library, be purchased with the money collected, a double object would be served. The books would be bought more cheaply than they could be obtained in the usual way of trade, and the owners would be supplied with money for their most pressing needs.

I am talking the matter up in New York, Boston and Philadelphia, and without having my name mentioned, I would like to have the idea spread further. The country has acted splendidly in regard to the material wants of the people. I wish we could do the same for the future intellectual needs of the new city.

#### An Offer from Michigan State Library

##### EDITOR OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I do not know just what material we have that would be desirable for the libraries of San Francisco, but would like to say that we shall be more than glad to furnish Michigan documents to any of the libraries who may wish to have them. A list of wants addressed to the State library will receive prompt attention.

MARY C. SPENCER, Lib'n.  
Lansing, Mich.

### Library Meetings

**Ann Arbor, Mich.**—On March 7, Miss Alcott, director of the Training school for children's librarians, Carnegie library, Pittsburg, made Ann Arbor a visit, and gave a lecture in the afternoon in the Women's gymnasium. There was a pleasant reception after the lecture, and in the evening she was entertained by the Library club. Her visit aroused considerable interest among the university students as well as the actual library people, in the subject of library work for children, and we hope she may come again.

The April meeting took the form of a trip to Detroit, on the invitation of the Detroit library club. It was a beautiful day and about 20 made the journey of 40 miles. We were shown the printing establishment of the Detroit *News* while the noon edition was run off, and then climbed the stairs to the charming attic in the same building, where the Cranbrook Press makes its beautiful books. At noon a delightful luncheon was served in the Public library, to which about 40 sat down. We were afterward taken to visit the art collection and library of James E. Scripps, which is rich in early printed books, and from there to the Woodward avenue branch library and the Detroit art museum. After the closing of the circulating department of the Public library, at 9 p. m., the regular meeting of the Detroit library club was held in the reference room. Miss Briggs gave a good paper on the Libraries of France, which was followed by discussion and light refreshments. The Ann Arbor club returned home feeling that no city can be more hospitable than Detroit, as especially illustrated in the courtesies of Librarian Utley and his staff, and are firm in the belief that inter-library meetings should be encouraged.

FRANC PATTISON, Sec.

**Chicago**—At the April meeting of the Chicago library club Wallace Rice gave a most delightful and instructive talk on Earning a living by literature. He took for his text the long-ago saying of Scott that literature does well enough as a

staff but not as a crutch; as a dilettante pursuit, but not as a means of getting one's bread and butter. He contrasted the reporter of today and yesterday. They are now university men and all young in years as well as experience. This reporter does not write literature, but facts, his principal qualification being spryness in securing items of news, the man on the inside of office rewriting these facts into human interest stories.

Book reviewers no longer or seldom write book criticisms, but book reports.

He spoke of the Chicago book reviewers for the different papers, dwelling on the characteristic style of each. He also described the "method" of reviewing a book, not only fiction, but poetry, science, etc.

Besides the books he writes and the various newspaper work there are other phases of work by which a literary man may earn his living. One is giving literary advice, another reading manuscripts for publishing houses, and still another giving expert touches to manuscripts.

Mr Rice gave figures of the amounts paid for all this work. He insisted that in the Chicago literary world (excepting McCutcheon, of course), not one made a living by his books alone; indeed they would starve except for newspaper work.

He reviewed the situation most entertainingly, talking informally of local authors and local conditions. He named Chatfield-Taylor as an example of the endowed literary man. Average price of single books is \$1.25 and average royalty 10 per cent. Not 10 per cent of manuscripts get published anywhere, and of those published 9 out of 10 are written to order or are by authors of established reputation. Average returns of an unknown person brings in 10 cents per manuscript.

Publishers are avoiding the publication of short stories and translations are not at all well paid for. George Ade did not make his money from his books but from his dramas and newspaper work. George McCutcheon is probably financially the most successful author we have had.

The last regular meeting for the year was held May 10, at the Chicago public library, the president, Miss Ahern in the chair.

The reports of the retiring officers were read and accepted. The report of the City charter committee was presented by Mr. Josephson and received as a report of progress.

Reports of the auditing committee, and the committee on publicity were also presented and accepted. The committee on children's work in Chicago public library reported that they had not been able to secure an answer to their letters from either the board of trustees or the librarian.

Announcement was then made by Miss Moore of the binding exhibit from the Newark public library, planned to be held jointly by the club and the Oak Park public library from May 14 to 26, at the Oak Park library. A special invitation was extended to the club to be present on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, May 19.

The president read a letter from F. J. Teggart, librarian, Mechanics' institute, San Francisco, recounting the library losses experienced there during the recent catastrophe, the needs and future plans. Upon motion a committee composed of the librarians of the Public library, John Crerar library, and Newberry library were appointed to deal with the subject of assisting the libraries in San Francisco.

The business routine was then set aside and Miss Symmes of the English department of Kenwood institute, by invitation of the president, delighted the audience with a charming story of St. Francis of Assisi, as she was wont to tell it to children. The retiring president then presented her address on the Library conditions in Chicago. The paper was listened to attentively and will be thoughtfully considered by all her auditors.

The nominating committee submitted the following report: For president, F. L. Tolman, reference librarian of University of Chicago; first vice-president, Carrie L. Elliott, reference librarian Chi-

cago public library; second vice-president, Renée B. Stern, library director Chicago Telephone Company; secretary, Ellen G. Smith, assistant, John Crerar library; treasurer, H. L. Leupp, University Press, and the secretary was instructed to cast the vote for the officers as presented.

The nominating committee reported further that it recommended a program committee of five be appointed to take charge of the programs of the meetings of the club for 1906-07, the president to be an ex-officio member of the committee.

This second part of the report was referred by motion to the incoming executive board with power to act. A letter from Pres. Judson of the University of Chicago, acknowledging the contribution of \$25 by the club toward the Harper memorial library was read by the president.

The following resolution was adopted:

The club has this year reached the highest point in its history, and since this is mainly due to the great interest and untiring devotion of the executive committee and specially of the president, Miss Ahern, the Chicago library club extends to these officers its sincere thanks.

Club adjourned.

EVVA L. MOORE, Sec.

**District of Columbia**—The ninety-third regular meeting of the District of Columbia library association was held in the children's room of the Public library, April 25, 1906, Pres. Bowerman in the chair. After the business of the meeting was disposed of the program followed.

Dr F. H. Garrison, in his paper on the

**Library of the surgeon-general's office,**

stated that the library, containing 156,469v. and 433,522v. and pamphlets, is one of the three largest medical libraries in the world, surpassed in numbers only by the collections at Paris and St. Petersburg. This library contains an unrivaled collection of medical periodicals and is rich in incunabula. The first printed work of Hippocrates, the "father of medicine," is here in the original Greek, issued by the Aldine Press at Venice in 1526. There are 51



different editions of his collected works in numerous languages, and the total number of his works here reaches 882. The collection, started by Surgeon-general Lovell prior to 1836, has been materially enlarged through the efforts of the various surgeon-generals, especially Dr John S. Billings, now director of the New York public library, and through liberal appropriations by Congress. There have been issued a number of catalogs and indexes of the library, one of which, the *Index medicus*, is now under the patronage of the Carnegie institution. The index catalog of the library of the surgeon-general's office, limited to 500 copies distributed with discrimination, is one of the most stupendous bibliographical works ever undertaken, a monument to the department, to the enterprise of Dr Billings, and to the scholarship of Dr Robert Fletcher, the present librarian. This catalog is not only a list of the works to be found in the library, but also a complete bibliography of medicine. Although bibliographies of medical literature had been attempted by Gesner as early as 1545, and by Merklin, von Haller, Plocquet, Haeser, Young, Forbes, Atkinson, Callison, Watts and others later yet, in the language of Osler, their efforts are lilliputian beside the gargantuan undertaking of the surgeon-general's office.

Dr Fletcher, being present, spoke of the library being, in fact, the National medical library; of the aid that it had received from the periodical publications of Great Britain and other foreign countries; and of the great benefit to the medical profession by the establishment of laboratories for research work.

Dr Edwin A. Hill, in taking up his paper on

**The chemical card index of the patent office** said he would give a brief digest of his paper "on a system of indexing chemical literature; adopted by the classification division of the United States patent office," which appeared in the *Journal of the American chemical society*, Vol. 22: 478-494. He said that the index, now of about 500,000 cards, was an index not

simply to chemical patents, but an index to the whole of chemical literature. On account of the variety of names of substances and the interminable work in searching chemical classes, the most direct system seems to be to recast the formulas of the compounds, writing the atoms in alphabetical order of the chemical symbols—disregarding the water of crystallization—and then arranging the formulas on an alphabetical basis. Mr Hill illustrated by formulas and told of a number of devices used in his work.

Dr William H. Seaman, of the United States patent office, gave a very interesting bibliographical sketch of the late Col. Weston Flint, who, during the Civil war, was appointed military agent for Ohio at St Louis; was active in anti-slavery work; in 1869-70 editor of the St Louis daily *Tribune*; held a number of Missouri state offices; was United States consul at Chin Kiang, 1871-74; in 1877 admitted to the bar in the District of Columbia; 1877-87 librarian of the Scientific library of the United States patent office; one of the first United States civil service examiners; in 1889 statistician of the Bureau of education; librarian of the Public library of the District of Columbia in 1898, which he held until his retirement from active work in 1904. Dr Seaman prefaced his paper by suggesting that the May meeting might be held at Winchester, Va. He also spoke on the desirability of the mechanic coming into closer touch with books dealing with his own particular line of work, and the necessity for such books in a public library.

HAROLD TAYLOR DOUGHERTY,

Sec. pro tem.

**Massachusetts**—The Southern Worcester library club, composed of librarians from the southern part of Worcester county and the immediate vicinity, was informally organized at a meeting held in the Bancroft memorial library of Hopedale, Mass., upon the afternoon of March 1, 1906. The librarians present were Bertha Franklin of Bellingham, Ethelwyn Blake of Milford, Mrs Laura C. Saddler of Upton, Mrs Gertrude C.

Bowker of Upton, Beatrice Putnam of Uxbridge, and Harriet C. Sornborger of Hopedale. They had been invited by Miss Sornborger, the librarian of that library, to visit her and talk over library matters. After showing them over that very beautiful building, so admirably adapted to the work for which it is intended, and explaining its facilities, Miss Sornborger invited her guests into the trustees' room where the meeting was held. Library methods were freely discussed and the proposition made by the hostess that a club should be formed, and that the reading course now being published in *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* should be made somewhat the basis of work. It was decided that such a club would be both helpful and pleasant and that it could not fail to stimulate the interest in library work in the region.

Upon May 3 a second meeting of the club was held in the Thayer memorial building in Uxbridge, Mass., at three in the afternoon. The subject considered was the Relation of the school and the library. Librarians, trustees, school superintendents and teachers were present from the vicinity to the number of about 50. Miss Sornborger presided and introduced as the first speaker Rev. C. A. Roys, president of the board of trustees of the Uxbridge free public library, who welcomed the guests. A paper was next read by C. F. Taylor, superintendent of the schools of Hopedale, Bellingham and Meddon.

Mr Taylor advocated strongly the need of teachers becoming more familiar with the books and the working mechanism of the public libraries in their communities. He felt that the teacher, not the librarian, should bear the brunt of the instruction of her pupils in the use of the library, and that she should send them to the library so prepared that books could be called for by names or numbers rather than depending upon the librarian to find the book upon a subject to be studied. He read also an extract from a course in literature that has been tried in Watertown, Mass., and commented upon its advantages and

defects as a help in forming a taste among children for better reading.

Mrs Mary E. S. Root then gave a delightful talk upon her work as children's librarian in the Providence public library. She told how the work done for the public schools had gradually been increasing from a small beginning, when books were issued in limited numbers to teachers until now, when they are not only loaned to the teachers themselves but are sent in large numbers to the school-rooms for distribution among the pupils. Also by an arrangement with the school superintendent classes are sent to the library from all the upper grammar grades, and Mrs Root talks to them, and explains catalogs and reference books and ways to use the library. Pictures of the men and women of whom the children may have been reading are used to awaken an interest. For instance, the class is shown a picture of Marconi, asked who he is, whether he is living or dead, and where they think they can find something about him.

Mrs Root advised making lists of books for the teachers and sending selected ones to them, thinking that there was no better way in which to let them know what the library contained and how it could be of use to the schools.

She felt that few of the busy teachers had time and many not the interest to search out things for themselves.

In the discussion which followed, in which S. A. Melcher, superintendent of the Northbridge schools, and F. S. Brick, superintendent of the Uxbridge and Douglas schools, took part, the weight of the argument seemed to be in favor of having the librarian act as an expert to open the library to both teachers and pupils, rather than that so much should be required of the teacher alone.

Miss Bancroft, a trustee of the Bancroft memorial library of Hopedale, moved that a vote of thanks be extended to the librarian of the Uxbridge free public library, its trustees and the speakers of the afternoon. This was carried with a standing vote and the meeting adjourned. BEATRICE PUTNAM, Sec.

**Minnesota**—The second meeting of the Twin City library club was held at the publishing house of the H. W. Wilson Company, Minneapolis, on Monday, March 4, 1906.

Supper was served in the hall on the second floor at seven o'clock, where the steady hum of conversation showed that the first aim of the club—"to promote acquaintance"—was being accomplished.

At the short business session following the supper, D. L. Kingsbury, assistant librarian of the Minnesota historical society, presided in the absence of both the president and vice-president. Mr. Wilson then announced that all were requested to participate in a Virginia reel in the adjoining ballroom, a fine being imposed on any who refused. The club responded with alacrity, and a delightful social hour was passed.

The members of the club then adjourned to the basement to inspect the printing and binding department, and afterwards assembled in the editorial rooms, where talks were given by Mrs. H. W. Wilson and Miss Fanning, on the methods employed in compiling the *Cumulative book review digest*; by Miss Guthrie on the *Readers guide to periodical literature*; and by Miss Potter on the United States catalog, and *Cumulative book index*. All of these talks were full of interest and tended to increase the already profound respect of all librarians present for these valuable publications.

The third meeting of the club was held in the rooms of the Minnesota historical society, at the capitol, St. Paul, on Monday evening, April 12, 1906.

After a social hour visiting the various departments of the library, including the museum, the meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Folwell, in the reading room of the society. D. L. Kingsbury, assistant librarian, spoke on the general library and especially the collection of government publications. Many members of the club were surprised to learn that the library has files of the documents and journals of the Senate and House for the first fourteen

congresses nearly complete. J. B. Chaney told of the newspaper collections, which from a small start in 1868 have grown to 7000v. The society is now receiving more than 500 papers weekly. Especially valuable are files of the New York *Herald* from 1847 to 1877. Short talks were given by Miss Vose on the cataloging of the library, and by Miss Hawley on the re-classification, which is now in progress. The Cutter classification, which is best adapted to libraries of this kind is used. Miss Vose talked about the scrapbooks of the society, and Mrs. Rose B. Dunlap spoke on the literary work, especially Minnesota biographies and the life of Gov. Ramsey. Rev. E. C. Mitchell told something about the collections in the museum which he started when he found an Indian axe in 1847. Warren Upham, secretary of the society, spoke of its general progress during the last 10 years. During this time the library has grown from 55,265v. at the beginning of 1895 to 81,768v. on the first day of this year. The collections of township and county histories and of family genealogies, have considerably more than doubled.

Dr. Folwell urged the club members to ask the legislature for a larger appropriation for the Historical society, especially to provide money for indexing the newspapers of the society, and to catalog the letters of Gen. Sibley and Gov. Ramsey. These papers, he said, would be worth \$50,000 and should be placed in a fireproof vault.

**New York city**—The annual meeting of the New York library club for the election of officers was held May 10. The routine business was disposed of, the reports of officers and committees being read and accepted.

Several changes were made in the constitution and by-laws. Article 2 now reads Greater New York and vicinity. Article 3 was changed to allow the admission of members by election by the club. Article 5 now provides that the nominations shall be made at the March

meeting. Article 6 limits the total expense of any meeting to \$20. Article 7 now provides that amendments to the constitution shall be referred, at a regular meeting, to the council which shall report thereon.

The following officers were elected: President, John Cotton Dana, Newark (N. J.) public library; vice-president, Victor Hugo Paltsits, New York public library; treasurer, E. H. Virgin, librarian of the General theological seminary; secretary, Alice Wilde, librarian Washington Heights branch.

The council for the year is to consist of the above officers, the retired president, Henry W. Kent, with the following elected members:

To serve four years—Dr John S. Billings, New York public library; Elizabeth L. Foote, New York public library; Helen E. Haines, editor of the *Library journal*; C. Alexander Nelson, Columbia university library.

To serve three years—R. R. Bowker of *Publishers' weekly* and *Library journal*; James H. Canfield, librarian of Columbia university; Jessie F. Hume, librarian of Queensborough library; Mary W. Plummer, director of Pratt institute library school.

To serve two years—A. E. Bostwick, chief of the circulating department of the New York public library; Belle Corwin, librarian of New York university library; Isabel Ely Lord, librarian of Pratt institute; Frank P. Hill, librarian of Brooklyn public library.

To serve one year—Wilburforce Eames, Lenox library; Mary E. Miller, librarian Equitable Life Insurance Company; Frank Weitenkampf, Lenox library; Silas H. Berry of the Fifty-sixth st. branch of the Y. M. C. A.

A motion was offered by Josephine E. Baldwin that a resolution in sympathy with the library interests in San Francisco and vicinity be drawn up and sent to the California library association and that \$50 be appropriated from the funds of the treasury of the New York library club and sent to the president of the California library association to be ex-

pended as he sees fit. The motion was carried with enthusiasm.

The business of the evening being then concluded, the club listened to a paper on The mission of humor by Agnes Repplier. It was very interesting and enjoyable for the matter which it contained as well as for the manner in which it was presented. It was quite in Miss Repplier's best vein and quite equal to the expectations of her most enthusiastic admirers. The reasoning it contained was disburbed with illustrations and samples of wit and humor of various forms, which proves that whoever else may lack a lively sense of humor Miss Repplier does not.

The evening closed with a social half hour, during which many of those present had the pleasure of meeting Miss Repplier.

**North Carolina**—The second annual meeting of the North Carolina library association was held in the Olivia Raney library, Raleigh, April 27-28, with an attendance of 25 members from all parts of the state and 13 representatives from othersouthern states. The later were Ida J. Dacus of the Winthrop normal college library, Rock Hill, S. C.; J. P. Kennedy of the State library of Virginia, Richmond; Julia Rankin of the Carnegie library, Atlanta, Ga., and the following young ladies composing the class from the Southern library school of Atlanta: Eloise Alexander, Atlanta; Marion Bucher, Decatur, Ga.; May Chapman, Macon, Ga.; Jessie Hopkins, Athens, Ga.; Louise McMaster, Winnsboro, S. C.; Sara Manypenny, Chattanooga, Tenn.; May Martin, Easley, S. C.; Mattie Bibb, Montgomery, Ala.; Florence Bradley, Atlanta; Carrie Dailey, McDonough, Ga.

The address of welcome was made by Dr Richard H. Battle, president of the Olivia Raney library of Raleigh. Following this address, Dr Wilson, the secretary, presented a very detailed report in which he showed that a new library spirit had been prevailing in the state for the past five years, and that within that brief period a great step forward in library work had been taken. He pointed

out the fact that in 1900 there were no rural school libraries in the state, that there were but very few city libraries, and that the college libraries were very inactive. But within the short period of five years over 1300 rural school libraries have sprung up; a dozen or more city libraries, with trained librarians and carefully chosen boards of trustees, had been established; and the college libraries, formerly more or less inactive, had begun in a serious way the work of winning the respect and the place in college life which should be theirs. This report made it clearly evident that in North Carolina the library, as an institution, had been coming into its own, and that today it was to be reckoned with as an essential power in the state's life.

The president, Mrs. Ross, outlined in her address the work of the association during its two years of activity. The most significant note sounded by her was that the association, as an organization, had become impressed with its responsibility to the people it represented and that it had turned itself seriously to the consideration of the many problems with which it was confronted.

At the conclusion of the reading of these reports, Miss Rankin of Atlanta, with the class from the Southern library school, discussed from various viewpoints the subject of library organization. This discussion, apart from the fact that it was very instructive in and of itself, was especially significant in that it gave an unmistakable proof of the fact that the day has come, not only in North Carolina, but in the whole South as represented by the class, when the training of the librarian has become considered as essential to the usefulness of the library as is the training of a teacher to the usefulness of the school.

At the evening session on Friday, Mrs. Lindsay Patterson of Winston and Dr. Edwin Mims of Trinity college, Durham, spoke on The library and the woman's club, and Public libraries of North Carolina. Mrs. Patterson, as a prominent worker in the women's clubs of the state, impressed upon the club women the importance of the library as

a means leading to a fine, broad culture, and urged them to become more interested in the general library movement. Dr. Mims spoke of the growth of public sentiment in favor of library development. He saw in the recent growth of the libraries the dawning of the day in North Carolina when a community would feel itself disgraced if it were without a public library. Both addresses were unusually stimulating. They will be published later and sent out by the association as aids to it in its work of creating a greater and more intensified library spirit.

At the conclusion of the evening session a very delightful informal reception was given the members of the association by the citizens of Raleigh.

At the morning session on Saturday the following papers were presented: The library and the public school, by Prof. E. P. Moses of the city schools of Raleigh; Rural libraries, by J. X. Joyner, superintendent of public instruction of North Carolina; College libraries, by Ida J. Dacus of the Winthrop normal college, Rock Hill, S. C.; A state library commission, by John P. Kennedy of the State library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. Discussions of these and other topics were participated in by M. O. Sherrill of the State library of North Carolina, Julia S. White of the Guilford college library, and other members of the association. The discussions relating to the establishment and management of rural school libraries and the activities of a library commission were especially interesting, and in them the association showed that it had been giving very serious attention to these very important subjects and that it was attempting to reach correct conclusions concerning them.

The final business session of the meeting was held Saturday afternoon. Among a number of resolutions passed at that session were the very important ones of preparing a statement to be presented to the next general assembly showing the need of a new fireproof building for the State library; of presenting a statement to the general assembly relative to the creation of a State library com-



mission; and of extending an invitation to the American library association to hold its annual meeting for 1907 at Asheville, N. C. The last resolution, given in full, is as follows:

Recognizing the fact that the library movement in the South has grown with unusual rapidity in recent years and that at present it would be stimulated to larger achievement by the inspiration and encouragement which a serious meeting of the American library association in the South would give it; and

Inasmuch as the city of Asheville, N. C., the most beautiful of all the cities of the far-famed "Land of the sky," has, through its local Library association and other organizations, expressed its very great desire that the American library association conference for the year 1907 be held within its borders; therefore be it

Resolved, that the North Carolina library association join with the various organizations of the city of Asheville in their most cordial invitations with the sincere hope that the meeting will be most beneficial and inspiring to all sections of the country represented; and be it further

Resolved, that this association call upon the State literary and historical association, the North Carolina federation of women's clubs, and other educational bodies and leaders, to present with it, through the president and secretary, invitations of similar import, to the officers of the American library association at its approaching meeting at Narragansett Pier.

Voted unanimously, Raleigh, N. C., April 28, 1906.

Having completed all of its proposed work for the session, the association proceeded before adjournment to the election of the following officers for the coming year: President, Mrs Annie Smith Ross of the Carnegie library, Charlotte; vice-presidents, Dr C. D. McIver of the State normal college, Greensboro, and Mrs Solomon Weil of the North Carolina federation of women's clubs, Goldsboro; secretary-treasurer, Dr Louis R. Wilson of the University of North Carolina library, Chapel Hill.

A review of the activities of the association during its two years of life offers much to the library workers of the state in the way of encouragement. A long progressive step has been made. The rural school libraries, while possibly not as well organized as they should be, have been splendid advertisers of the library movement. The city libraries, too, have been finding their work, and as they have begun to fill in a large way

their mission, the public has been enabled to realize their immense usefulness. The college libraries, some of them at least, have also been living up to their opportunities, and the outlook in the state is bright. The effort to create a fine sentiment in favor of the library as an institution demanded by the requirements of modern life, has been made, and, best of all, it has, in a very large measure, been crowned with success.

LOUIS R. WILSON, Sec.

**Ontario**—The fine weather was auspicious and the seventh annual meeting of the Ontario library association, in Toronto, Easter Monday and Tuesday, lived up to its good omens. The attendance was the largest yet and the interest was keen and sustained. A good deal of time was spent in discussing practical business matters, and the program, therefore, was not as full as usual. The addresses, however, evoked considerable very frank discussion. As usual the attendance was largely of men and quite a number of new libraries joined the association.

During the past year new buildings have been opened at St Thomas, St Mary's, Waterloo and Galt. The historical building is under erection and Ottawa is ready for formal opening by Mr Carnegie about May 1. Toronto's plans for main building and one branch are practically ready. Donations are promised by Mr Carnegie to Wallaceburg, Woodstock, Bracebridge, Gravenhurst, Brampton, Oshawa, Picton, Parth. A friend offers Burlington a building and H. Corky does likewise for Belleville.

In view of this activity in library buildings, the executive committee planned to give Monday evening to a study of the libraries already erected in Ontario and some of the best recent American and English buildings. This study was illustrated by lantern slides and proved to be very interesting and helpful. Four library boards who are facing the building problem were represented, and since the meeting two other boards have sent deputations to Toronto to see the slides. The secretary will loan the slides to the various boards who wish them.

Dr Bain presented the report of the committee on Best books of 1905 by distributing the list, as he had it already in print. Norman Gurd for the committee on Juveniles, stated that a list of about 1000 titles of books suitable for Canadian libraries was now in the printer's hands. The publication of these lists is undertaken by the education department and they are sent to all the public libraries in Ontario.

The papers this year were The one-room library and its possibilities by Mrs T. Edith Jones, Newmarket; The treatment of pamphlets by A. G. Rowsome, Guelph, and The public library and the school by O. J. Stevenson, St Thomas. The last paper provoked a good discussion, the association being of various minds on what the library should do for the school.

The familiar face of one of the founders of the association, R. J. Blackwell, London, was missed this year. His hearty manner made him a noticeable figure at the meetings, all of which he had attended up till the present. The sympathy of the association was expressed for his friends.

The association was honored with the presence of A. H. U. Colquhoun, deputy minister of education, and of T. W. H. Leavitt, superintendent of public libraries. These gentlemen are new appointees to the offices and are greatly interested in libraries, and good friends of the association.

The officers elected for 1906-07 are: President, Norman Gurd, B. C. L., Sarnia; first vice-president, Albert Sheldrick, Chatham; second vice-president, Rev. W. A. Bradley, Berlin; secretary, E. A. Hardy, B. A., 65 Czar st., Toronto; treasurer, A. B. Macallum, M. A., F. R. S., 59 St George st., Toronto; councilors, James Bain, D. C. L., Toronto; His Honor Judge Hardy, Brantford; J. Steele, Stratford; A. W. Cameron, B. A., Streetsville; His Honor Judge Mahaffy, Bracebridge; Ex-president W. J. Roberston, B. A., LL. B., St Catharines. The next meeting to be held Easter Monday and Tuesday, 1907.

E. A. HARDY, Sec.

### A. L. A. Committee on Title-pages to Periodicals

The committee met in New York on April 12, and agreed on a plan of action, in coöperation, if that can be secured, with the Association of periodical publishers. Later in the same day, W. I. Fletcher, chairman of the committee, met this association at their monthly lunch and business meeting, where he was cordially received and given an opportunity to express the views of his committee.

Joe Mitchell Chapple, editor and publisher of the *National magazine*, was appointed as a committee of the association to coöperate with the A. L. A. committee in drawing up a statement which might receive the approval of both associations, and have weight with publishers. Such a statement is now in preparation.

### Not a New Work

#### EDITOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

A recent work published by Archibald Constable & Co., London, in 1905, under the title Bartholomew Sastrow, being the memoirs of a German burgo-master, turns out to be the same as another work published by the same publishers in 1902 under the title Social Germany in Luther's time. A new title-page has been prefixed to the same plates.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM STETSON MERRILL.

The Newberry library, Chicago.

The United States circuit court, District of Massachusetts, has declared Yawman & Erbe Co. to be infringers of the lever key lock rod, patented and owned by Library Bureau, and has enjoined Yawman & Erbe Co. from manufacturing or selling the Y. & E. lock rod which is declared to be an infringement of invention. The decree also appoints Alexander P. Browne of Boston as master, to ascertain the amount of damages and profits to be paid by Yawman & Erbe Co. to Library Bureau for the manufacture and sale of these Y. & E. rods in the past.

## Library Schools

## Drexel institute

During the latter part of April the students visited the Free library of Philadelphia, the libraries of the University of Pennsylvania and Princeton university and the Trenton public library. From May 2 to 5, the biennial trip to libraries of New York city and vicinity was taken by the students, accompanied by the director. This year, instead of visiting the Astor library the class went to four branches of the New York public library; thus they obtained an idea of the varied character of the work done by this library. In addition the following libraries were visited: Columbia university library, Brooklyn public library, Children's museum of the Brooklyn institute, Pratt institute, Lenox library, Newark free public library. The unflinching courtesy shown at all the libraries was highly appreciated by all of the visiting party.

W. R. Eastman, New York state library inspector, addressed the students on April 20 on Library buildings. The interest in Mr Eastman's lecture was greatly enhanced by the admirable slides he exhibited.

Mr Putnam, on April 30, lectured on the work of the Library of congress, emphasizing in particular its functions as the national depository.

Emma R. Engle, chief of the children's department of the Free library of Philadelphia, spoke informally on work with children on April 26.

Agnes V. P. Wright (1905), who has been in the cataloging department of the University of Pennsylvania library, has accepted a similar position in the Free library of Philadelphia.

ALICE KROEGER, Director.

## Pratt institute

Instead of the usual reading and reference lists, the class of 1906 have prepared a number of programs for study clubs, making their own divisions and subdivisions of the subject, and giving references on each. The selection of books was limited, for the most part, to those in the A. L. A. catalog, and of ar-

ticles to those in the magazines and reviews of the last five years. The subjects of these programs are as follows:

The American Indian—Comparative religion (Outline for course of study)—Cathedral towns of England—Early Teutonic literature—The English stage—Factors in the history of education—History of music—History of Scotch literature—Holland—Japan—Italian renaissance—Mediaeval towns of Italy (Florence and Venice)—Mohammedanism—The mother as educator—Mythology and mythical legends—New France—Professions for women—Puritan and cavalier; a comparison of Colonial Massachusetts and Virginia—Romance of modern industry and invention—Shakespeare club program—Some problems of the day (Immigration, Labor question, The poor, Negro problem, Liquor question, Suffrage, Municipal government, Corporations and trusts)—The South, an attempt to understand her—United States expansion.

The number of meetings under a program varied from 6 to 12. These are ready for lending to any town library which has study-club patronage, and which may wish to look some of them over, with a view to use. There would be no charge except for postage.

The series of lectures for use in normal schools on coöperation between libraries and schools, on children's reading, the selection of children's books, helpful reading lists, picture bulletins, and reference work for children, to be given by Miss Mendenhall of the Indiana state library commission, was postponed for two weeks owing to the loss of lecture material by fire in Indianapolis, but was finally given the first and second weeks of May. During her stay in Brooklyn Miss Mendenhall will criticize the students' work in bulletin making.

The visits to local libraries to be made this term are as follows: Brooklyn public library, Montague and Williamsburg branches, Long Island historical society library, and the libraries of the Girls' high school and the Erasmus Hall high school, Brooklyn institute, and the Children's museum library; the New York

public library, Twenty-third street, Tompkins square, Ninety-sixth street, and Webster branches, Columbia university library, the Lenox library, and of the Museum of natural history, the Union settlement library, and the following out-of-town libraries: Vassar college and Poughkeepsie public, New-ark public and the New Jersey historical society, and the Women's institute, Hollywood Inn, and Public library of Yonkers.

The members of the advanced class are doing practical work this term in the Columbia university and Lenox libraries, and in the reference and children's department of the Brooklyn public library.

#### Graduates

Elizabeth H. Haskell (1905), secretary of the school, has accepted a position in the library of the University of California, her home being in California, and Emily Turner (1898), formerly librarian of the Oshkosh (Wis.) public library, enters upon the duties of secretary July 1. Miss Turner will also give some instruction in the school.

Mrs Arabelle H. Jackson (1903-04) and Katrine H. Jacobsen (1896), announce their engagement to be married, both leaving their present positions during the summer.

Ida M. Mendenhall (1904), comes to Geneseo, N. Y., in the autumn as librarian of the State normal school there. Her work will have in part the character of her normal school and teachers' institute work in Indiana.

Miss Horrocks (1905), has been appointed assistant in the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, and begins work there in May.

#### Western Reserve university

The second semester of the Library school has been one of varied activities and interests; the shorter courses and the visits of outside lecturers have furnished a pleasant diversion from the usual routine. Throughout February and March was given the course upon work for children, three lectures being given by Caroline Burnite, chief of the

children's department of the Public library, and Euphemia L. Power, instructor in literature for children in the City normal school. Visits to the Cleveland public schools and to the children's rooms of the library constituted a part of this work. During the course Frances J. Olcott visited the school and spoke upon Library work with young people, and Annotation of children's books.

A pleasant incident in the life of the school was the mutual acquaintanceship of students of the Pittsburg and Western Reserve library schools brought about through the visit of six weeks by members of the senior class of the Training school for children's librarians. From the middle of February until April their time was divided between special courses at the school and practice in the children's rooms in the Cleveland public library. During this period also, Prof. Root of Oberlin delivered his interesting course on the History of the printed book.

The privilege of meeting personally and hearing in succession the editors of the two library journals was one greatly enjoyed. Miss Ahern spoke upon The business side of library administration, and The duties of a librarian to the library, to the community and to herself. This was followed by a talk on Some American librarians of note. Miss Haines spoke upon Library periodicals, and Discrimination in fiction.

In the regular courses general bibliography was succeeded in February by trade bibliography, reference work and cataloging, continuing throughout to the close of the school.

In March Miss Eastman's lectures upon Aids to readers, and Illustrated bulletins closed with an exhibit of bulletins made by the students. The course given by her upon Reports and statistics followed and furnished a fitting preface to the annual visit to eastern libraries.

The itinerary of the trip, April 7-18, followed much the same program as that of last year, the libraries of Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Pittsburg being again visited. Owing to the absence of the director, on account of ill-

ness, Miss Eastman accompanied the three students who elected to take the entire trip. On the return they were met at Pittsburg by six of the class and several members of the Cleveland public library staff, where the acquaintance begun with the seniors recently returned from their visit to Cleveland was pleasantly renewed. Those who remained at home spent their April vacation in gaining additional practical experience by working in the Public library or its branches.

Immediately following the return from the trip, the course in Book repair and binding was given by Miss Woodard of Ann Arbor.

The director was able to return to the school after the April vacation after an absence of eight weeks on account of illness. Shortly before her return Mr Williams took charge of the class in book selection and will continue the course until the end of the year.

The students' loan practice in the public library closed in April. Throughout their course they have been much indebted to the librarians of the branches and heads of departments for the very helpful and sympathetic attitude toward them in their efforts to gain a knowledge of the practical working of the library. Record practice, including classification and cataloging, began in January and will continue through May. During this month also Miss Tyler, secretary of the Iowa State library commission, lectured to the students. Final examinations will be held in the first week of June and entrance examinations for incoming students will take place June 15 and 16.

It has been decided not to give the senior work during the year 1906-07.

#### Southern library school

The first year of the Southern library school will come to a close on June 1, when 10 young women will be graduated in the class of library economy. There will be no formal graduation exercises of a public nature. While the school does not guarantee positions to its graduates, Miss Wallace, the director of the school, has already received nine offers of positions.

The members of the class which will graduate on June 1 are Eloise Alexander, Atlanta; Florence Bradley, Atlanta; Mattie Gilmer Bibb, Montgomery, Ala.; Marion C. Butcher, Decatur; Lila May Chapman, Macon; Carrie L. Dailey, McDonough; Jessie Hopkins, Athens; Louise McMaster, Winnsboro, S. C.; Sara L. Manypenny, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Mary E. Martin, Easley, S. C.

The students attended the opening of the children's department of the Chattanooga public library, May 19. The equipment and books of the children's room were presented by the children of the late E. G. Richmond, in the nature of a memorial, and are perfect in detail.

The class was entertained by Mrs. E. G. Richmond at luncheon at Lookout Inn.

#### Michigan

The State board of library commissions of Michigan is planning library instruction in the Normal college and the three normal schools in the state. By an arrangement made by the superintendent of public instruction the counties contiguous to the counties in which the normal schools are located will send their teachers to a six weeks' summer school, this instruction to take the place of individual county institutes which have been held for a number of years in Michigan. The Board of library commissions will place a teacher of library science in each school for the benefit of the teachers in the rural districts and small towns and villages having charge of the libraries connected with their schools. The work will be largely practical and will consist of elementary details, but will cover all points necessary to a systematic arrangement of these little libraries.

County commissioners of schools are requested to select in their counties two or three of their most intelligent teachers and induce them, if possible, to pay special attention to this work in the summer institutes. There will then be at least two people in each county with whom the Library commission can correspond relative to library conditions,



and also send them out in their county to help other teachers.

#### **Chautauqua summer school**

This continues from July 17 to August 17, 1906. Melvil Dewey is general director, Mary E. Downey, Public library, Ottumwa, Iowa, resident director, with Harriet R. Peck of Gloversville public library, and Sabra Vought of Nashville university, both graduates of the Albany library school, as instructors. The advance applications indicate a very prosperous year.

#### **Washington**

The University of Washington will offer a course in library training at its regular summer quarter, June 25-August 3. Harriett E. Howe of Illinois library school will direct the course and lectures will be given by C. W. Smith of Seattle public library, J. M. Hitt, state librarian, members of the university faculty and others.

It is the purpose of the course to offer instruction to teachers who have charge of high school libraries, to librarians or assistants in libraries of the state and neighboring states, to those who have definite appointment to library positions, and to those who finished the work offered in the summer session of 1905.

#### **Wisconsin**

The elementary course in library training, July 16-August 24, covering six weeks of 40 hours study each, is systematically planned to include as much as possible of library technique and methods.

The supplementary course for 1906 offers three series of lectures on Printing, Binding, and the Elements of prose fiction covering a period of four weeks, July 30-August 24.

**Printing**—The course on printing, July 30-August 4, will be conducted by H. E. Legler, secretary of the Wisconsin free library commission and will cover both the practical side of the printer's art and the history of the printed book.

**Binding**—The course on binding, August 6-11, will be conducted by John Cotton Dana, librarian of the Free pub-

lic library, Newark, N. J. The course is on library binding for use, the lectures to cover the process of binding, binding materials, and the literary side of binding; while allied subjects, as the care of books, book labels, and bookplates will also be considered.

**Elements of prose fiction**—The course in prose fiction, August 13-24, will be conducted by Henry Burrowes Lathrop, associate professor of English literature in the University of Wisconsin. This course is given with a view to suggesting methods of forming a standard of judgment, and of acquiring a better appreciation of the greatest works of this class of literature.

Application for admission should be made, and the required blanks filed, before June 10. Address

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE,  
Preceptor.

Wisconsin library school, Madison, Wis.

#### **Wyoming**

The library department of the University of Wyoming offers a course in library methods in its Summer school which is to cover a period of six weeks, June 25-August 3.

### **The National Educational Association**

#### **Postponement of meeting till 1907**

In view of the appalling calamity which has visited San Francisco, it is impossible for the National educational association to hold its meeting this year in that city. After fully considering all the letters and telegrams which have been received from all parts of the United States, and after carefully weighing what is due the people of San Francisco, the executive committee, under authority conferred upon it by the board of directors at its last meeting, has decided to postpone the annual convention of the National educational association for one year, to a place yet to be determined. They join in the hope that the association may meet in San Francisco as soon as feasible.

NATHAN C. SCHAEFFER, Pres. N. E. A.

**American Library Association****Twenty-eighth annual meeting**

The first outline of the program of the 1906 meeting of the A. L. A. at Narragansett Pier June 29-July 6 is here given, but it is, of course, subject to change.

On Friday afternoon, June 29, the council and executive board will meet for the transaction of regular business.

On Friday evening a general acquaintance reception will be held to give strangers an opportunity to meet the members and the latter to renew old acquaintances.

Saturday morning is left free for resting and the first general session will be held in the afternoon at which the following will be presented:

Welcome in behalf of the state, Lieut.-Gov. Hon. Frederick H. Jackson.

Welcome in behalf of the Rhode Island library association, Harry L. Koopman, librarian, Brown university, Providence, R. I.

Welcome in behalf of the Local committee, Rowland G. Hazard, and President's address, Frank P. Hill, librarian public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Library affairs in Great Britain, Henry R. Tedder, librarian Athenæum library, London, England.

Report of council; of secretary, J. I. Wyer, jr; treasurer, Gardner M. Jones; trustees of endowment fund, C. C. Soule.

**Reports of committees:**

Bookbuying, A. E. Bostwick, chief of circulation department, New-York public library.

Title-pages to periodicals, W. I. Fletcher, librarian, Amherst college library, chairman.

Bookbinding and book papers, G. F. Bowerman, Public library, Washington, D. C., chairman.

*Note*—The reports of the several committees, heretofore presented at one session, have been distributed throughout the general sessions in the hope that the arrangement will give more than the usual time for discussion.

On Saturday evening the following meetings will be held:

National association of state librarians, first session, John Pendleton Kennedy, state librarian, Virginia, president.

Catalog section, first session, Theresa Hitchler, superintendent of cataloging department, Brooklyn public library, chairman.

Round table meeting for small libraries, Frances L. Rathbone, librarian, Public library, East Orange, N. J., in charge.

No program for Sunday will be offered.

The churches of Narragansett Pier are located as follows: Baptist, Caswell st.; Catholic, Rodman and Mechanic sts.; Episcopal, Central and Caswell sts.; Presbyterian, Rodman and Boon sts.

On Sunday evening the following will be given:

Singing, in charge of Albert T. Briggs, Cambridge, Mass.

Authors' readings. Names to be announced. Poem, The librarian of the desert, H. L. Koopman.

Poem, Robert G. Welsh.

Poem, John Vance Cheney, librarian, Newberry library, Chicago, Ill.

Poem, Sam Walter Foss, librarian, Public library, Somerville, Mass.

Stereopticon glimpses of 12 A. L. A. post conferences, Frederick W. Faxon, chairman travel committee.

On Monday morning the following will be in session:

Children's librarians' section, Mrs. Arabelle H. Jackson, first assistant children's department, Carnegie library, Pittsburg, Pa., chairman.

Bibliographical society of America, William Coolidge Lane, librarian, Harvard university library, president.

**In the afternoon the following:**

Trustees' section, W. T. Porter, trustee of the Public library, Cincinnati, Ohio, chairman.

League of library commissions, H. E. Legler, secretary of the Wisconsin free library commission, president.

College and reference section, first session, J. T. Gerould, librarian, University of Missouri library, Columbia, Mo., chairman.

On Monday evening the second general session will be held as follows:

The public library as a municipal institution. In relation to the city as an educational institution, Hon. David A. Boody, president board of trustees, Brooklyn public library. As affecting its administration, Horace G. Wadlin, librarian, Public library, Boston, Mass.

The future of library commissions (in behalf of the League of library commissions), Melvil Dewey.

Effect of earthquake and fire on San Francisco libraries, Frederick J. Teggart, librarian, Mechanics' institute library, San Francisco, Cal.

**Reports of committees on the following:**

Gifts and bequests, Joseph L. Harrison, librarian Providence athenæum, Providence, R. I., chairman.

A. L. A. publishing board, W. C. Lane.  
Coöperation with N. E. A., James H. Canfield,  
librarian, Columbia university library, chair-  
man.

Library administration, W. R. Eastman, li-  
brary inspector, New York state library,  
Albany, N. Y., chairman.

Public documents, Adelaide R. Hasse, as-  
sistant New York public library, chairman.

Index to prose fiction, Josephine A. Rathbone,  
Pratt institute library school, Brooklyn, N. Y.

**Tuesday, July 3, will be free for Provi-  
dence trip.**

**Wednesday morning will be taken up  
as follows:**

National association of state librarians, second  
session.

Catalog section, second session.

**The afternoon by third general ses-  
sion.**

Address, Rev. W. H. P. Faunce, president of  
Brown university, Providence, R. I.

Address, Hon. George H. Utter, governor of  
Rhode Island.

Subjects fit for fiction, Owen Wister.

Reports of committees:

Ways and means, E. C. Hovey, chairman.

Permanent headquarters, Herbert Putnam,

Library of congress, chairman.

Publicity, John Cotton Dana, librarian Pub-  
lic library, Newark, N. J., chairman.

**The evening will be free**

**On Thursday morning meetings will  
be held as follows:**

College and reference section, second session.  
Children's librarians' section, second session.

**Thursday afternoon the fourth general  
session will discuss:**

Planning and construction of library buildings.

Raymond F. Almirall, C. C. Soule, and Ber-  
nard R. Green, Architect's point of view;

W. H. Brett, Librarian's point of view;

Views of a consulting architect, Prof. A. D.

F. Hamlin, Columbia university.

Reports of committees:

International relations, Dr E. C. Richard-  
son, librarian of Princeton university li-  
brary, Princeton, N. J., chairman.

Library training, Mary W. Plummer, chair-  
man.

**Thursday evening will be taken up by  
the following:**

Round table meeting for proprietary libraries.  
Charles K. Bolton, librarian, Boston ath-  
enæum, Boston, Mass., in charge.

Round table meeting for small libraries, Mary  
E. Downey, librarian, Public library, Ot-  
tumwa, Iowa, in charge.

Round table meeting for naval and military  
libraries, Frederick Charles Hicks, librarian,  
U. S. naval war college, Newport, R. I., in  
charge.

**Friday morning will be given to the  
fifth general session as follows:**

The library in relation to special classes of  
readers.

Books for the blind, Emma R. Neisser, Free  
library, Philadelphia, Pa.

Books for the foreign population, James H.  
Canfield, librarian, Columbia university li-  
brary, New York city.

Supply and use of technical and industrial  
books, Harrison W. Craver, technology li-  
brarian, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Libraries and settlement work.

Unfinished business.

### **Program Trustees' Section A. L. A.**

**Narragansett Pier—July 2, 1906, 2 30 p. m.**

Thos. L. Montgomery, Sec. W. T. Porter, chairman

**The basis of library taxation.**

Dr James H. Canfield,  
Columbia university.

**The whole duty of a trustee—from a li-  
brarian's standpoint.**

Arthur E. Bostwick,  
New York public library.

**The whole duty of a trustee—from a  
trustee's standpoint.**

J. G. Rosengarten,  
Trustee Free library of Philadelphia.

**The Carnegie donations.**

Hon. David A. Boody,  
President board of trustees,  
Brooklyn public library, N. Y.

**The ideal relation between trustees and  
librarian.**

Melvil Dewey,  
President American library institute.

**What an editor thinks of trustees.**

Miss M. E. Ahern,  
Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Trustees are requested to see to it  
that the librarian attends the meeting  
of the American library association. In  
no way can the board better evidence  
its appreciation of faithful service than  
by granting the librarian leave of ab-  
sence to attend this meeting at the ex-  
pense of the library. In every case  
where this has been done the expense  
has been fully justified. An inspection  
of the program for the library meeting  
will convince you that the librarian  
could not have a better preparation for  
a successful year's work than is offered  
at the meeting at Narragansett Pier.

WASHINGTON T. PORTER.

### Narragansett Pier

#### Some places of interest in the vicinity

Those who seldom visit the seashore and are contemplating the Narragansett trip in June, certainly have a treat to look forward to. The fascination of the ocean alone, will be sufficient to attract many, and especially those who never tire of the ceaseless motion and constantly changing color of the mighty deep. It is easy to understand the alluring attraction of the sea to those who have spent most of their life on the water's edge, and although business may take some inland, there is always that longing for the water that gradually, but surely, works up to a degree of restlessness that can be cured in no other way than by a visit to the shore, where the hungry soul can be satisfied and peace and quietness comes to one once more.

I have known old men who have spent a lifetime on the very edge of the ocean to refuse to go inland, "because," they said, "the sea tells me something new every day, and I do not want to miss anything." There is a fascination about it which can not be explained. So Narragansett offers particular attractions to those who love the sea, and the surrounding country with all its many varying scenes, to those who want the combination of land and sea. It is probably the most attractive spot in New England that could be selected for an A. L. A. meeting. The combination of ocean, bay, river, and beautiful hilly country, makes it an ideal spot for a gathering of the serious-minded librarians, and the fullness of the moon during the conference will be an added charm for those who are romantically inclined.

The natural features of Narragansett are her greatest charms. Man has added really nothing, but simply provided the necessary accommodations to care for the multitude. A beautiful crescent-shaped beach of some two miles stretch, merging into the rocky shores on both ends is a vivid picture of "stern and rock bound coast" which was a terror to the Pilgrim fathers, and today is the dread of our seafaring men.

The northern coast leads to the entrance of Narragansett bay. Conanicut Island, or Jamestown, as it is commonly known, splits the bay like a huge wedge and forms the east and west passage and separates the mainland from the island of Rhode Island, better known to all as Newport.

There are few more inspiring scenes than can be had from the hills at the west, where one can get a bird's-eye view of Narragansett bay and Jamestown, with Newport in the distance, and there are fewer places along the coast where one can get such a panoramic picture of sea and country. No painting could do it justice. The combination and blending of colors, the wooded hills and green fields, running to the water's edge, with the little river winding in and out like a silver thread, is a picture which nature alone can paint, and which leaves an impression on one's mind that can never be erased.

The shore to the south is one continuous rocky coast, terminating its wildness at Point Judith, some six miles from the beach. It is here that the ocean seems to spend its uttermost strength to baffle mankind, and the bones of many wrecks along the shore are silent witnesses to the power of the furious storms which seems to culminate in all their power and fury at this particular point, and prove conclusively which is the mightier.

The meeting of the waters from Narragansett bay, and Long Island sound, together with the swift tides, make this place particularly rough, even in quiet weather, and may account, to a very large extent, for the very uncomfortable recollections many have of Point Judith when rounding that particular spot on the New York boat.

The country surrounding Narragansett Pier has added largely to the popularity of the place. With some 30 miles of good roads, the country is accessible and driving, bicycling, and motoring are the popular afternoon pastimes.

Below are some of the places of interest with the distance from the A. L. A. headquarters. On the shore, going south:

Indian Rock	Miles
Point Judith country club	1
Scarborough beach	2½
Point Judith lighthouse	3
	6

All these places can be taken in by the drive to Point Judith, which is the popular drive. To see the Point, or "Pint Judy," as it is commonly called, to the best advantage one should go by way of the shore road up Kinney's av., then take the "old pint judy road" to the lighthouse, returning via the shore road. This gives one a chance to see the shore country, and returning through the cottage settlement of Narragansett, which is scattered along the "rocks" and facing the ocean.

The northern trip is through Boston Neck, following the water's edge to Saunderstown, another pretty summer resort about seven miles from the Pier. Going inland a little one can visit the birthplace of Gilbert Stuart and the old snuff mill which are still pretty much as he left them, and the drive over MacSparan hill is well worth taking. A little further on is the quaint, old-fashioned village of Wickford, which is the summer home of Alice Morse Earle, and has furnished material for many interesting colonial stories.

The country trips are toward the west, and the prettiest is one of some 20 miles. It takes one through the village of Peace Dale, the home of Pres. Caroline Hazard of Wellesley. Peace Dale has a nice little library of some 12,000v. and is worth seeing. Continuing north about three miles is the village of Kingston, called in colonial times "Little Rest."

The old tavern, where Washington was entertained when on his march from Boston to New York, is still standing and the village library is housed in the old courthouse which was erected in 1776. Just opposite the old tavern is the village well, the same today as when Washington stopped to refresh himself from "the old oaken bucket" which still hangs in the well. In the village of Kingston is the Rhode Island college of agriculture and mechanic arts, which is beautifully situated on the crown of the hill and overlooking the plains beyond.

The drive continues through the Great Swamp where King Philip's battle was fought in 1675. Remnants of the old fort are still there, but can only be reached by means of an ox team through heavily wooded swamp roads. The old trench surrounding the fort can be seen from the road. Aside from the historical part, it is a beautiful drive. The trees meeting overhead make a continuous bower of green and the rhododendrons and laurels in bloom (as they will be in the latter part of June) banking high on either side are well worth seeing. This road leads to Matunuck, the birthplace of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry and by the home of Dr Edward E. Hale. Near the home of Dr Hale is the Robert Beverley Hale memorial library, a pretty little library nestled in among the trees and a refreshing spot to stop for rest. The return trip is through the country once peopled by the quaint old Quaker families of "South county" and in colonial times known far and wide for its prosperity, through the village of Wakefield, back to Narragansett. There are also many places of historical interest, and many pleasant walks and drives around the Pier, but the attractions of the beach and rocks will probably absorb much of the spare time one has. Still the longer trips can easily be arranged for, if desired. If one wishes to get a satisfactory view of the famous Narragansett country the longer trips are recommended, and no one will ever regret the time they take.

HERBERT W. FISON.

Honor lies not in never falling, but in rising when we fall.

Every man of us stumbles at times. Every man of us at times needs a helping hand stretched out to him, and shame to any man who will not stretch out that helping hand to his brother, if that brother needs it. But if the brother lies down you can do very little in carrying him. You can help him up but he must walk for himself. The only way in which you can ever really help a man is to help him to help himself.

—Theodore Roosevelt.



## News from the Field

## East

The forty-third annual report of Public library of Lynn, Mass., gives number of books 71,690; home use 184,326v.; school reference use 108,961v.

The Fletcher memorial library at Ludlow, Vt., reports adult circulation 11,428v., juvenile 6220v. in 1905, 1151 borrowers registered, 8126v. in the library; 10 art exhibits were held.

Eliot, Maine, is to have a new library built of field stone and costing, exclusive of furnishings, \$10,000. The late Dr J. S. H. Fogg of South Boston bequeathed to the town for this purpose \$50,000 and also his private library valued at \$10,000.

Amos Barnes, proprietor of the Hotel Brunswick of Boston, has presented White River Junction with a handsome public library building and a lot. It is to be known as the George W. Gates memorial library, in honor of the Gates family, with which the Boston hotel man is connected.

Prof. G. Stanley Hall is agitating for establishment in Boston of a central pedagogical library and museum for Massachusetts. First-hand literature on education and pedagogy in the libraries of this country, he claims, is utterly inadequate to the needs of scholarly research along these lines, so that the whole educational system must suffer—unless such an institution as he proposes comes to the rescue.

## Central Atlantic

Robert P. Bliss of Chester, Pa., has been appointed secretary of Pennsylvania library commission.

The legislature of New York state has voted to erect a new building for the Education department. This includes the library division.

The report of the Adriance memorial library of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., shows a circulation of 93,377v. with 42,192v. in the library. Salaries for the year were \$4218.

Elizabeth R. Frost, New York '03-04, has resigned as assistant in the cataloging department of the Buffalo public library to become assistant cataloger at the Carnegie library, Pittsburg, Pa.

Mrs Daniel S. Lamont has offered to fit up and store with books a library for the people of McGrawville, N. Y. It will be located in the Lamont residence and for the first year the donor will meet all expenses.

Ida M. Mendenhall, who has been engaged in promoting the work between libraries and schools for the Indiana library commission has been appointed librarian of the New York state normal school at Geneseo, N. Y., and will take up her work there in September.

The corner stone of the fifth of the 30 buildings of the Philadelphia free library proposed under the Carnegie gift was laid with appropriate ceremonies on May 5. The site of this branch, at Spring Garden and Eighteenth sts., was given by the Baldwin Locomotive Works.

The twelfth annual report of the Public library of Montclair, N. J., is a record of library progress. Accessions 2831v., circulation 12,728v. more than the previous year. Classes from the public school have been given instruction in the use of the catalog and other library helps. The juvenile circulation was 14,174v.

The report of the Pennsylvania home teaching society and free circulating library for the blind for 1906, contains a full list of books in Moon's type for the blind.

There are 962 names on the roll of blind readers and 7145v. were distributed. The free postage on books for the blind has been a great stimulus.

A model school library, consisting of all books approved for class use and for teachers' reference by the Board of education of New York city, has been placed in the office of Traveling libraries in Riverside branch building. These volumes, which are arranged by school

grades, will be kept together as a permanent collection for the use of the teachers of the city, who may use them freely at any time.

An exhibition of a collection of American etchers will be on view at the Lenox library building in New York city for several months.

It affords a view of the state of original or painter etching in this country during the past 35 years. Diversity of subject and style keeps interest alive, while the restriction of each man's showing to a few characteristic examples has kept the exhibit within reasonable bounds and prevents weariness.

The experiment of opening some of the branch reading rooms on Sundays from 2 to 6 p. m. and keeping some of them open until ten o'clock on week days continues. After a month's trial this service in the branches where the average attendance is not satisfactory, is discontinued. In general, the Sunday attendance is much better than that between 9 and 10 p. m., although the latter is large on the lower East side, reaching an average of 61 per evening at the Rivington street branch.

An exhibit of picture bulletins is now being held in the training class room of the New York public library at No. 209 W. 23d st. The bulletins cover a wide range of subjects and have been collected from the different branches throughout the city. Some of them are of exceptional excellence. A number of different bulletins on the same subject furnish an opportunity for a very interesting and instructing comparison. It is stated that a part of these bulletins are to be sent to the Carnegie library at Pittsburg for use in a similar exhibition there.

A trade catalog department has been started in the Newark library. As Newark is primarily a manufacturing and industrial city, the various trade journals have always been in great demand in the reading room and it was thought that a collection of trade catalogs kept up to date would be of practical use. The

collection already comprises over 300 catalogs, which are classified according to the general character of the machinery they describe and placed in boxes, arranged alphabetically by subject. These are kept at present on shelves in the bound periodical room, connecting the reference and reading rooms and are therefore easily accessible.

#### Central

Leatha Paddock, for 12 years librarian of Terre Haute, has resigned her position.

The University of North Dakota has received an offer of \$30,000 from Andrew Carnegie for a library building.

E. E. Shepard, well known to members of the N. E. A., has been appointed library director in Winona, Minn.

Electra C. Doren has resigned the directorship of the Western Reserve university library school for the ensuing year.

Mrs Sallie C. Hughes has been elected librarian at Terre Haute, Ind., and Florence Crawford was made first assistant.

The Ohio legislature has passed a law authorizing the establishment of township libraries. It was prepared by the State library association.

Lucy G. Arnold, for six years assistant in Carnegie library at Greenville, Ohio, has been elected librarian. Bonnie Weaver has been made assistant.

Katherine L. Sharp, director of Illinois library school, who spent a four months' leave of absence at Lake Placid, N. Y., has returned to her work at University of Illinois in recovered health.

The legislature of Ohio passed a bill last month permitting library boards to issue bonds for buildings. This will allow Cleveland to issue bonds for a new building if the people vote for it, and the chances for a magnificent new building are very good.

F. M. Crunden, librarian of St Louis, who started on a European trip in search of health and rest was stricken with paralysis in New York on his way, May 9, and is in a hospital there in a very

serious condition. His physicians say he has some chance of recovery.

During the last few months the libraries in a number of towns in Northern Indiana and throughout Minnesota have been robbed of money and their contents considerably damaged. This vandalism seems a sort of epidemic and no clew to its cause or source has been found.

Minnie McGraw, for 12 years librarian of Public library, Mankato, Minn., has resigned her position and will retire from library work.

Maud Van Buren, formerly librarian of Owatonna and at present cataloger in library of University of Iowa, will succeed Miss McGraw August 1.

Harold L. Leupp, New York '04, for the past two years assistant reference librarian in the John Crerar library, has resigned to accept a position with University of Chicago Press. Mr Leupp is superintendent of the library departments of the Press, in which capacity he will have charge of the purchasing of books for the university libraries.

The third annual report of Mary E. Downey as librarian of Ottumwa, Iowa, shows activity and growth along all lines of library work. The circulation was 70,229v., an increase of 11 per cent, one-fourth of which was through agencies outside of the main library. A great use is made of clippings arranged in manila envelopes  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$  in. Light, heat, water and telephone service have been furnished the library free of cost.

A pretty little fête was held in the children's room in Milwaukee public library by the History club in celebration of the birthday anniversary of Miss Dousman, librarian of that department. Some time ago this club of young girls was formed for the purpose of studying the noted women of history instead of devoting themselves, as girls are apt to do, altogether to reading fiction. At the entertainment the girls competed for a prize offered by Miss Stearns for the best argument to establish the claim of their favorite heroine to first place among the noted women of history. The first

prize was awarded to Margaret Winn, who advanced the claim of Florence Nightingale, and the second prize was a tie between Hattie von Engel and Hazel Ifferman, so two second prizes were awarded.

#### South

The Carnegie library of Atlanta has acquired the collection of works of southern poets, made some years ago by Jennie Thornley Clarke, author of the compilation of southern verse entitled *Songs of the South*.

The fifth annual report of Public library of Fort Worth, Texas, gives the circulation as 60,611v., 68 per cent of which was fiction; registration 13,102; 1620v. were cataloged during the year. L. C. cards were used also. The duplicate book collection has proved satisfactory and has yielded a profit over cost of \$153.89.

The Rosenberg library of Galveston, Texas, has installed a system of book circulation through the schools of that city. Sets of books suitable for the various grades in the schools are sent to the various buildings and the teachers lend them to the pupils to take to their homes or reading under supervision of the teachers, not as supplementary reading but to cultivate a taste for good literature.

Henry M. Gill, for some time teacher of history in the Boys' high school in New Orleans, has been elected librarian of the Public library of that city. He succeeds William Beer, who resigned to devote his time more largely to the Howard memorial library. Mr Gill is a native of New Orleans, a B. A. from Tulane university, and has held several important positions in the city. He is 33 years old, married, and is highly regarded by all classes in New Orleans.

The first report of the Jacksonville (Fla.) free public library, covering the last seven months of 1905, shows a total circulation of 46,552, which is at the rate of 75,444v. a year, children's books loaned, 10,774. Fiction 75 per cent. 8685v. were purchased during this year at a cost of \$9,055.37, an average of

\$1.04 per volume, including a very respectable number of reference books. Registration for the seven months, 3761, about 15 per cent of the white population. There is a separate department for colored people, where 338 borrowers have registered, and 2541 books loaned. The library was opened June 1, 1905, in a new \$50,000 building donated by Mr Carnegie, and the citizens have contributed the very creditable sum of over \$10,000 for the purchase of new books.

#### Canada

J. H. W. MacRoberts was appointed librarian at London, Ont., to succeed the late R. J. Blackwell. Mr MacRoberts has been engaged in school work heretofore.

The Public library of Hamilton reports a circulation of 153,303v., with 15,600v. in the library. The open shelf system has largely increased the use of classed books particularly among juveniles.

The Public library of Ottawa was opened to the people of that city on April 30. Andrew Carnegie was the guest of honor on the occasion, which was marked with the greatest enthusiasm on the part of every one. Mr Carnegie's address was marked with the largest wisdom in pointing out the mission of the public library. A preliminary report of the library gave a complete history of the institution from its inception to the opening.

#### Foreign Notes

The report of Haakon Nyhuus, librarian of the Deichman library in Christiania, Norway, gives a circulation of 484,589v., of which 157,048v. were juvenile. The library has 75,401v. on the shelves.

The University of Vienna has received as a gift by the will of Prof. Anton Mengers, his large library of socialistic literature, upon which Stammhammer's Bibliography of socialism and communism was based. Prof. Menger's collection is unique owing to the fact that no

one else had ever thought of gathering this material and during his 70 years collecting he secured nearly all the original documents relating to socialism.

The eleventh branch of the Glasgow library scheme was formally opened May 1. The building is a handsome one-story structure, treated simply in the Renaissance style, and covering an area of 1000 square yards. The interior is comfortably and elegantly arranged. The main entrance gives direct access to the lending department, in which there is accommodation for about 10,000v. This is the eleventh library under the corporation scheme. Seven more are to be provided, and these will be completed within the next year or 18 months.

A rule has been made by the Cape Government railroads in South Africa, that printed books of a literary nature should be charged at half parcels rates over those roads.

Bertram L. Dyer, librarian of Kimberly South Africa, writing of it says:

This concession will affect local readers who are in touch with a station on the Cape Government railways, and will enable many more of them to take advantage of the special privilege of taking out at one time double the number of books allowed to a town subscriber, which has already been granted by the committee of this library to all subscribers residing five miles from the library.

At a later date it is to be hoped that the postmaster-general will see his way to allowing similar concession on books sent through the post, which could easily be done without altering any of the present rates, if a clause were inserted extending the present privilege of free postage of specimens addressed to museums to parcels of books addressed to libraries.

Dr Richard Garnett, late keeper of the printed books in the British Museum, died in London April 13, in his seventy-second year. He retired in 1899 from the Museum where he had labored for half a century. He was the author of a number of literary works both poetry and prose.

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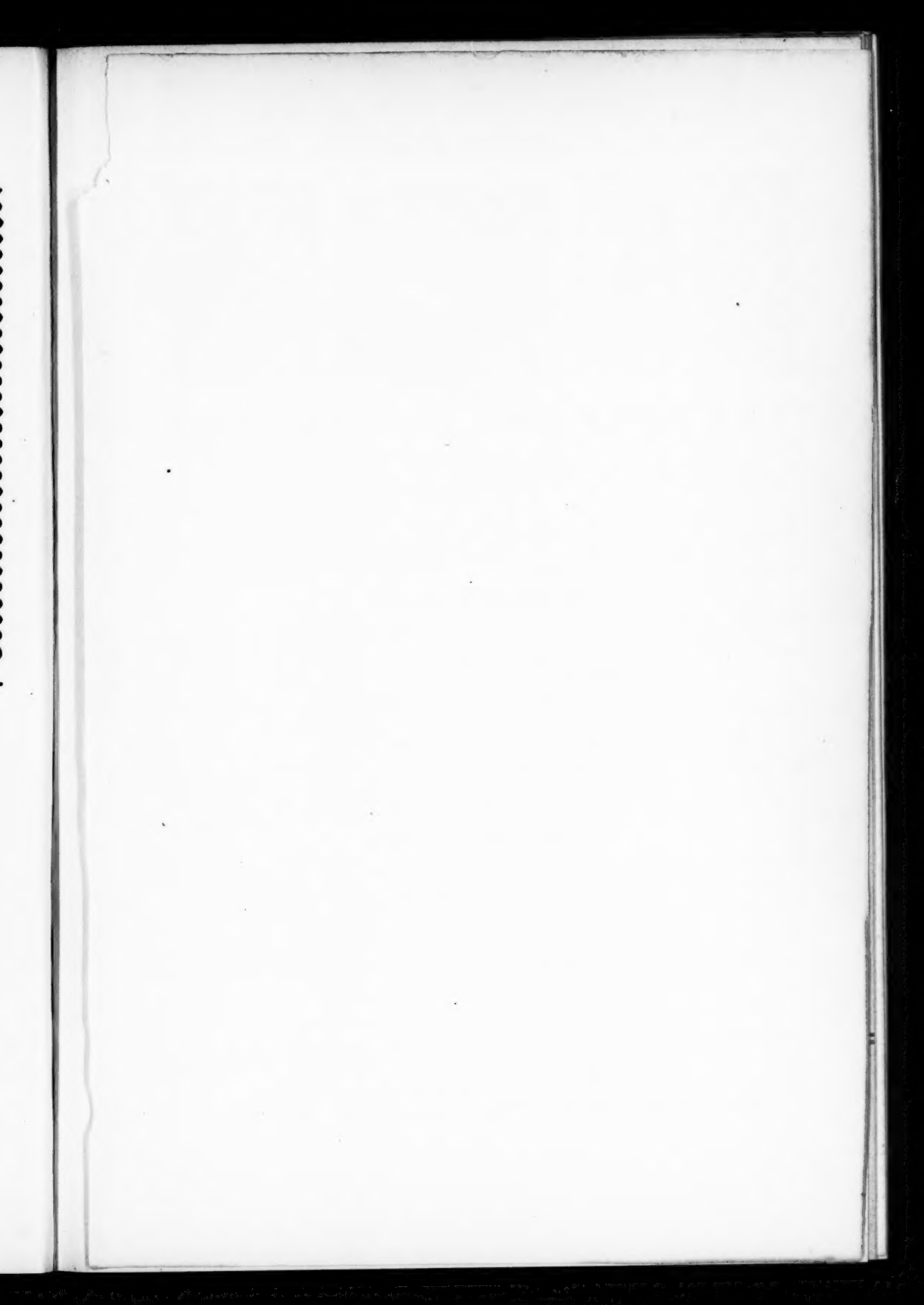
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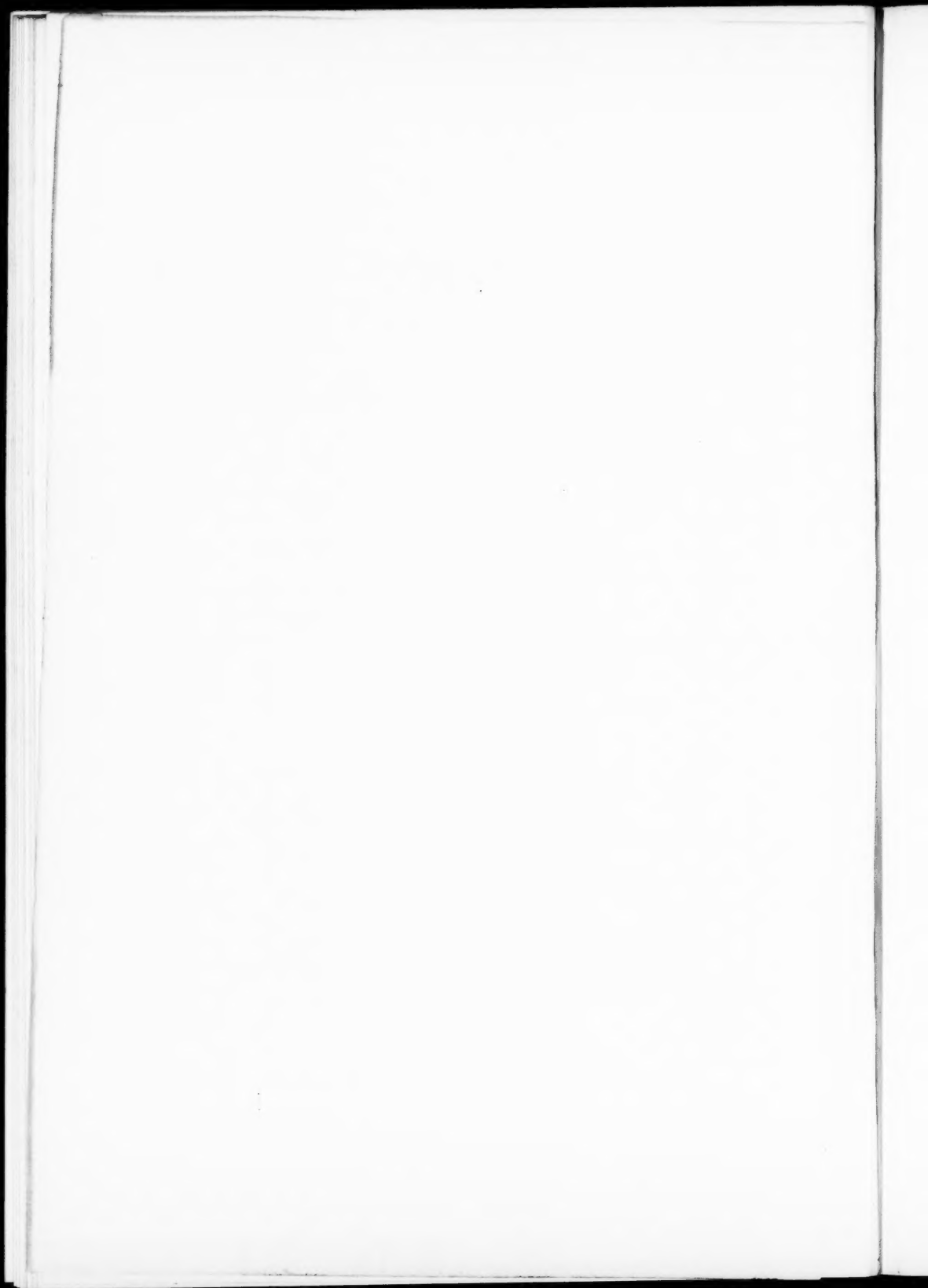
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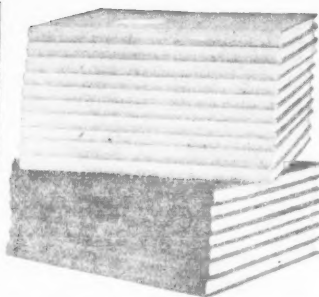
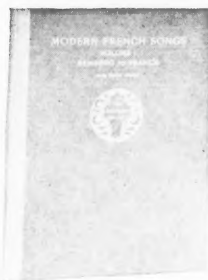
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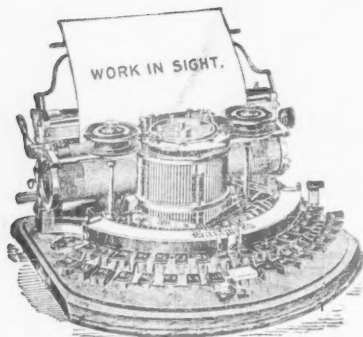
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